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Gorbachov home to tide of trouble

Soviet ethnic riots leave eleven dead

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachov faced mounting troubles when he returned to the Kremlin last night, with serious clashes between Uzbeks and Kirghiz in Soviet Central Asia leaving 11 dead, and economic disintegration fuelling the rise of Mr Boris Yeltsin.

Disturbances in the town of Osh on Monday flared again yesterday and two border policemen were among 11 dead. More than 200 people were injured, some seriously.

In Moscow, the Soviet leader, who only the day before had been lobbying American businessmen to invest in the Soviet Union, found his controversial market economy plan under renewed pressure.

Riots began when Uzbeks, who form the majority in Osh, began arguing with native Kirghiz at a rally held to discuss land allocation. Arguments raged and Uzbeks rampaged through Osh burning houses, overturning cars, smashing windows and storming the police station. Witnesses said police had at first fired into the air but then into the crowd.

A state of emergency was declared in Osh and surrounding districts. Osh is only just over 100 miles from the Fergana Valley near the Chinese border, where more than 100 people died in ethnic disturbances a year ago. Soviet journalists in nearby Frunze said the Uzbek community in Kirghizia was appealing to

fellow Uzbeks in Uzbekistan to come to their aid. Soviet officials said troop reinforcements had been sent to Osh.

Rivalries over farmland and scarce water resources have been a flashpoint in Central Asia for the past year. Last summer there were serious clashes on the border between Kirghizia and Tajikistan.

Tass said the latest violence had been sparked off by a dispute over plots of land just outside Osh. Reports said a group of Kirghiz, claiming they were being denied housing, had occupied the land to build homes. This had led to the confrontation.

General Viktor Gontcharov, the Kirghiz republic's Interior Minister, was appointed military commander of the region yesterday to supervise the state of emergency as the Kirghiz government set up a special investigation.

The clashes involved 10,000 Uzbeks and up to 1,500 Kirghiz at a collective farm near Osh. Officials said Interior Ministry troops and border police had at first managed to control the crowd, but a large group of Kirghiz had arrived late on Monday night and the troops had lost control. Police made more than 50 arrests.

Osh is under strict curfew and streets and public buildings are being patrolled by Interior Ministry troops. Red Star, the armed forces newspaper, said that the root of the problem lay in demands by Uzbek extremists for union with Uzbekistan and autonomy for the Osh region.

In Moscow, senior Soviet officials signalled a partial retreat from the plan for a market economy involving price rises, saying the proposals might be delayed and amended after a "dialogue with the people".

The economic plan, which the Supreme Soviet was to vote on this week, has been subjected to withering criticism - from radicals, who want the state planning system completely dismantled, and also from hardliners, who fear capitalism to capitalism.

Yesterday Mr Venyamin Yarin, a former metalworker who is now on the Presidential Council, said Mr Gorbachov had told his senior advisers to "go to the people". Mr Yarin said: "We need an open conversation with the workers." But if the Government marks time, Mr Yeltsin, the radical Russian President, will use his new powers and enormous popular standing to seize the initiative.

The struggle over the appointment of Mr Yeltsin's

deputies in the Russian parliament, which had underlined the deadlock between his Democratic Russia group and the conservative Communist Party apparatus, was resolved yesterday when MPs approved Mr Yeltsin's nomination of Mr Ruslan Khasbulatov, from the Northern Caucasus, as his first deputy.

Deputies, said Mr Yeltsin, could appeal directly to the people at rallies to advocate an alternative economic programme.

Mr Gorbachov's diplomacy in the United States and his walkabouts amid "Gorbymania" were shown at length on Soviet television. But many Russians, while approving the new warmth in super-power relations, found it strange that a leader they regard as floundering should have been mobbed as a hero. "There is a sense of drift here, a sinking ship," one said. "Meanwhile, Gorbachov tells us what a nice time Raisa had in Boston. He's badly out of touch."

The Supreme Soviet yesterday extended its current session, which should have ended on Friday, for a further week, to give Mr Gorbachov a chance to report next Tuesday on his summit talks. However, the delay also gives the Government a breathing space on the economy. Some officials think the plan for a "regulated market economy" should be withdrawn and tabled again when the Supreme Soviet meets in September. They fear that the Government will be defeated next week, and Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, the Prime Minister, forced to step down.

Several working-class deputies appeared alongside Mr Yarin yesterday to express the "shock and bewilderment" of workers at being presented with a plan providing for higher prices and private ownership of land and property after 70 years of state socialism.

Mr Yarin, a noted reformer, said such views were understandable but it was time the state stopped telling people what they should earn and where they should live.

Mr Alexander Yakovlev, another Presidential Council official and also a Politburo member, said the Soviet Union should avoid a split between radicals and conservatives by forging a national consensus based on "human and social freedoms". But he stopped short of suggesting a coalition government.

Ties with Seoul, page 12
Soviet arms offer, page 28

World Cup Guide

IN A special eight-page section today, *The Times* presents a guide to the World Cup, which begins on Friday.

Graham Taylor, expected to be appointed as the new manager of the England team, will be contributing to *The Times* throughout the World Cup, while the tournament's issues are examined by our football correspondents, headed by David Miller.

England concluded their warm-up matches with a 10-2 win over a Sardinian XI.

Hooligan expelled, page 3
Match report, page 56
Cup guide, pages 39-46



INSIDE

Saunders in the box

Mr Ernest Saunders, the former chairman and chief executive of the brewers Guinness, yesterday began his evidence in the long-running trial at Southwark Crown Court into an alleged illegal share support operation during the takeover of Distillers in 1985. Mr Saunders and three other City figures deny charges of theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act.

Mr Saunders said that when he was head-hunted from Nestlé to run Guinness in 1981 the company was on the verge of bankruptcy. Page 3

Levin award

Bernard Levin of *The Times* was yesterday named columnist of the year in the *UK Press Gazette* British press awards. Page 2

Ceasefire plan

Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Mr Hun Sen, the prime minister of the Vietnamese-backed Cambodian regime, signed a communique calling for a ceasefire. Page 11

News changes

ITN, Britain's main independent television news provider, is undergoing a corporate transformation in anticipation of the passage of the Broadcasting Bill this year. Page 21

Jobs threat

Merger of two DIY businesses - Boots' Payless and W.H. Smith's Do It All - in a jointly-owned enterprise will bring a loss of more than 200 jobs, mainly in Kent. The new company, Do It All, will have a 10 per cent share of the DIY market. Page 29

Out of court

Boris Becker, the Wimbledon men's singles tennis champion, has been expelled from the All England club's practice courts. Page 56

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Mr Antonas Gecas arriving home yesterday after the court hearing in Edinburgh

Settlement in war crimes suit

By KERRY GILL

A DEFAMATION action against Times Newspapers by a Lithuanian-born man claiming he had been falsely accused of war crimes was settled yesterday.

Times Newspapers will pay no damages to Mr Antonas Gecas, a naturalized Briton, but in an out-of-court settlement agreed to contribute an undisclosed sum towards his legal costs.

Times Newspapers stood firm against Mr Gecas's main complaint over claims that he was allegedly involved in atrocities during the Second World War, but conceded there were certain specific inaccuracies in two articles. Lawyers for Times Newspapers were prepared to go ahead and defend the action but agreed a settlement in the light of Mr Gecas's lawyers working on a no-win, no-fee basis.

After the hearing Mr Alastair Brett, company solicitor for Times Newspapers, said it had been obliged to take a commercial view by the arrangement between the plaintiff and his lawyers.

The Times could have incurred legal fees approaching £500,000 with no chance of recouping the money from Mr Gecas. Both parties said they regarded the settlement as satisfactory.

Case settled, page 5

MPs may vote again on Nazis

By ROBIN OAKLEY AND SHEILA GUNN

THE Commons is expected to be given another chance to vote on whether British courts should be given powers to try alleged Nazi war criminals before the Government decides whether to reintroduce the Bill defeated by 207 votes to 74 in the Lords on Monday.

The Government wants to keep down the general political tempo and there will be no rushed decision on whether to defy the Lords by pressing on with legislation. Ministers want to digest the Lords' debate and let feelings cool.

Senior colleagues believe, however, that Mrs Thatcher and Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, will seek to press ahead with a revised war crimes Bill after a decent interval and that there will be more weight behind the move if MPs have again endorsed the principle by a large majority. Government sources yesterday were saying that the Commons would clearly wish to be involved in any decision on the future of the Bill.

Ministers discussed the issue at a Cabinet meeting yesterday - brought forward this week because Mrs Thatcher will be flying to Moscow tomorrow - but they took no decision on how to react to the Lords' refusal to give a government Bill a second reading.

Lord Belstead, Leader of the Lords, is understood to have

Crash driver faces charge of involuntary murder

By LIN JENKINS AND RICHARD FORD

THE coach driver in the French holiday crash which claimed 11 lives will probably be charged today with involuntary murder, the French prosecutor said yesterday.

Mr John Johnston, aged 52, of Stoke-on-Trent, who is seriously ill as a result of injuries sustained when the double-decker coach careered off the motorway while he was at the wheel on Sunday, was questioned by investigators yesterday as a more detailed examination was made of the tachograph information.

Captain Patrick Mathieu, head of the regional motorway police, said after leaving the hospital in Auxerre where he interviewed Mr Johnston that the driver was under house arrest. A police guard will remain at his bedside until he is either charged or freed. Statements taken while a British Embassy official was present would be passed to the examining magistrate.

Officials allege that the coach was travelling at 22mph above the speed limit when it crashed, killing 11 people and injuring 60 as they returned from holidays in Spain.

M Jean-Luc Souhbol, the public prosecutor, said at the Palais de Justice at Sens: "It is very probable he will be charged tomorrow morning with involuntary murder and involuntary wounding." Involuntary murder is not so serious a charge as manslaughter but more serious than causing death by dangerous driving. If charged and

found guilty, he might be jailed for up to five years.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Transport Secretary, said yesterday in answer to an emergency question in the Commons that the tyre which burst had been in good condition and the vehicle properly licensed and operated.

He is to put pressure on coach operators to fit seat belts in their vehicles despite the failure of the European Community to back the measure. He is to press for the speedy introduction of speed limiters, which cut out the engine at 70mph. Coaches built after 1984 have them fitted, but those built between 1974 and 1984 have until next April to have them installed.

Mr Ray Cash, 39, the owner of the vehicle, said he would do all he could to help friends and relatives of those involved. For six hours he had himself believed his wife Jan, a courier on the coach, was dead.

He confirmed there had been another incident involving the same coach three weeks ago when it ran out of fuel while bringing holiday-makers back from Spain. Several male passengers had to push the vehicle to the side of the road and there was a whiplash to raise more than £100 to buy diesel as the driver did not have enough money. The cash was refunded two hours later.

Tyre tests, page 9

Parliament, page 10

Resorts must issue pollution notices

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

ENGLISH seaside resorts will in future have to proclaim their pollution problems as well as their traditional amenities, Mr David Trippier, Minister for the Environment and the Countryside, announced yesterday.

Resorts such as Blackpool, whose three beaches last year all failed to meet European sewage pollution standards, will be expected to display the fact publicly. A similar requirement is likely to be made of beaches in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Mr Trippier made the announcement when presenting

the European Blue Flag awards for outstanding bathing beaches, in which Britain had one of the poorest records in the EC, with only 29 awards compared to 137 in Spain, 128 in Denmark, 102 in France and 48 in the Irish Republic.

Resort notices, page 6

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Soviet troops see red over cost of capitalism

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

THE 380,000 Soviet troops and their families, now based in East Germany, are starting to worry about the cost of living in the capitalist world. From the beginning of next month they will have to pay for everything outside their bases and barracks in hard Western currency and they are already complaining that they will not have enough money to buy things when Western goods come on to the market.

Under the terms of the state treaty bringing in currency union between the two Germanies from July 2, Soviet troops are allowed to exchange their valueless Ostmarks, including savings, into hard, convertible Deutschmarks at a rate of two-to-one.

According to the Soviet Chief of Staff, General Mikhail Moiseyev, this

rate is "just not acceptable". He told the newspaper *Die Welt* yesterday: "We are soldiers and we cannot choose where we must serve. Our officers in the Western Armed Forces Group (which is based in East Germany) see themselves at a disadvantage if this two-to-one exchange is brought in for them."

The general denied that many servicemen had been able to make substantial savings during a five-year tour of duty in East Germany. Anyway, they wanted cash now in order to buy large domestic appliances and they would be unfairly punished compared with the East Germans who were able to exchange their cash at a one-for-one rate.

As for West Germany paying the cost of maintaining Soviet troops in East Germany, he said that this was

only fair since Bonn had for some time been paying towards the upkeep of American troops in Europe.

Asked how long would the Soviet forces remain in East Germany, the general laughed and, after a pause, said: "So long as there are American troops on West German soil."

The Soviet people, he said, had not invaded Germany because they wanted to. During the Second World War they had sacrificed more than any other nation and suffered 27 million casualties. "Therefore we cannot be indifferent to what is portrayed as a united Germany and how long Nato will exist."

It became clear at the Washington superpower summit that West Germany was being expected by both Nato and the Warsaw Pact to contribute substantially to the maintenance

of Soviet troops in East Germany and to pay towards the building of new barracks back in the Soviet Union for the troops and their families as they are withdrawn.

West Germany has already undertaken to honour the existing international obligations of East Germany, which has been paying 700 million Ostmarks a year to the upkeep of the huge Soviet garrison.

Sources here say that Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, is prepared to offer DM300 million (£105 million) a year, for a transitional period, lasting perhaps seven years, while negotiations go ahead for the troops to withdraw. That figure is probably too low, although savings on the West German defence budget could make it possible to find more money.

Britain to fight EC proposals said to threaten 5½m jobs

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THREE draft directives on part-time employment expected to be adopted today in Brussels by the European Commission threaten the jobs of up to 5½ million British workers, according to senior Whitehall sources.

Ministers are determined to fight the proposals, the first fruits of the Social Charter approved in the face of lone British opposition last year, when they came before them later in the year.

They are particularly incensed by a plan requiring every employer seeking extra staff to offer vacancies first to his part-time workers before going into the labour market and recruiting those without a job. A senior Department of Employment source said yesterday that this proposal was "amazingly prescriptive" and the planned directives were "hostile" to part-time work.

Ministers insist that Britain has the best record in Europe in creating employment, much of which has come in the part-time sphere, and they believe that the new directives would seriously jeopardize that achievement by burdening firms with needless regula-

tion. However, they fear that with the Commission planning to pass two of the proposed directives by majority voting in the Council of Ministers, their protests may be in vain. Much will depend on the success of Mr Michael Howard, Secretary of State for Employment, in mobilizing opposition from other nations.

Mr Howard was said yesterday to regard the measures, part of a social action programme of more than 40 planned directives over the next two years, as "misguided" and "unnecessary".

His determination to confront the Commission will bring him into conflict with Mrs Vasso Papandreou, the social affairs Commissioner, who is intent on pressing on with proposals she believes are essential to ensure free competition with the advent of the single market of 1992. Mr Howard is said to believe that the Commission has failed to produce evidence to back this assertion.

The departmental sources pointed out that 24 per cent of the British labour force works part time and that, contrary to the position adopted by Ms

Papandreou, two-thirds of those 5½ million people do so of their own volition.

The sources say that the planned directives would compel employers to justify the recruitment of a part-time worker every time such a vacancy was created, forbid temporary employment contracts lasting more than three years, limit the employment opportunities open to part-timers, and give part-time staff the same entitlement to state and company benefits as their full-time colleagues.

The sources said that such changes would inevitably push up employers' costs and so reduce the number of part-time and temporary staff.

Mr Howard signalled his determination to take on the Commission last month when he said it would be "foolish and damaging" for the Commission to burden states with a host of regulations that would severely reduce labour market flexibility.

He pointed out that unemployment in the EC stood at more than 14 million and that it faced fierce competition not only from the Far East but also from Eastern Europe.

Awards for three Times writers

By ROBIN YOUNG

Bernard Levin of *The Times* was yesterday named columnist of the year in the UK Press Gazette British press awards.

The judges' citation said that his "polemic on the shortcomings of the banks which fell foul of their lending policies was one of a series of columns which attracted the judges. Both he and Keith Waterhouse (of the *Daily Mail*, whose work was commended) are seasoned campaigners in this category and neither shows any signs of being past his best."

Bernard Levin won the British press award as columnist of the year in 1987, and won *What the Papers Say* awards as columnist of the year from Granada Television in 1988 and 1991.

Two other *Times* writers won commendations. Brian James, who won the title feature writer of the year last year, was again commended in the category which drew the largest entry of all, and Anne McElvoy was commended in the category for young journalists for her "superb coverage in Berlin".

Sandy Bremner, from the *Press & Journal*, Aberdeen, was campaigning journalist of the year. The awards, sponsored by the Post Office, were presented by Mr Norman Tebbit, former Conservative party chairman, in London.



The *Times*'s trio of award winning journalists yesterday: Brian James, Anne McElvoy and Bernard Levin

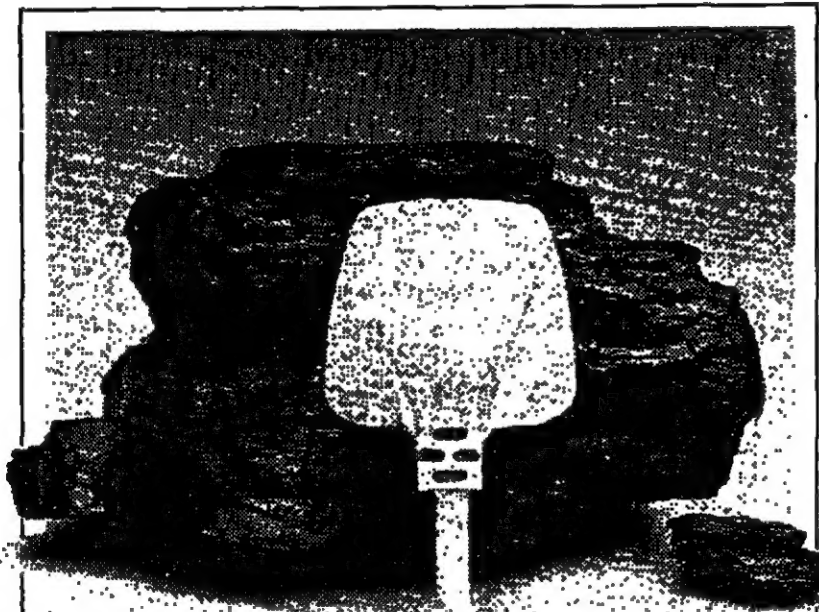
Other winners and commendations were:

Reporter of the Year: David Hencke, *Guardian*. Commended: Chris House, *Sunday Mirror*; Alfred Lee, *Sunday Express*. International reporter of the year: Jonathan Minsky, *Observer*. Commended: John Passmore, *Evening Standard*; Peter Miller, *Sunday Times*. Critic of the year: Jack Tinker, *Daily Mail*. Commended: Michael Ratcliffe, *Observer*.

Colour magazine writer of the year: Russell Miller, *Sunday Times*. Commended: John Sweeney, *Observer*. General feature writer of the year: Ann Leslie, *Daily Mail*. Commended: Mary Riddell, *Daily Mirror*. The David Holden award: Rupert Cornwell, *Independent*. Commended: the late David Blundy, *Sunday Correspondent*, who was killed reporting from El Salvador.

News photographer of the year: Darío Miličević, freelance. Sports photographer of the year: Rob Ridd, *Sunday Mirror*. Commended: Ian Woodbridge, *Daily Mail*. Commended: James Lawton, *Daily Express*. Commended in the category campaigning journalist of the year: Margaret Driscoll and John Davidson, *Sunday Times*. Graphic artist of the year: Alan Gilliland, *Daily Telegraph*. The Arthur Sanders award (for travel writers): Frank Barrett, *Independent*. Commended: Alexander Fraser, *Observer*. East Berlin Notebook, page 12

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WAKE UP TO THE NEW AGE OF

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House price fall is accelerating says new survey

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE fall in house prices is accelerating nationally and is expected to continue for the rest of this year, Britain's biggest building society reported yesterday. But a firm recovery is forecast for next year.

The Halifax monthly survey showed that prices in the year to the end of May fell by 1.8 per cent. This followed a fall of 0.2 per cent in April, the first drop in prices on an annual basis recorded by the Halifax since it started to publish figures in 1983.

The figures show that although house prices in May were unchanged compared with the previous month, after seasonal adjustment they fell by 0.4 per cent.

The Halifax say that the price of new houses is now virtually unchanged compared with a year ago. Prices paid by first-time buyers are 2 per cent higher than a year ago because of increases during the second half of last year.

For all houses, the national average price stands at £65,349, while that for new houses is £78,643 and for first-time buyers £51,200.

Mr Gary Marsh of the Society's research department said the regional split was continuing, with prices in the south - including London - probably having bottomed out, falling in the Midlands, and stable or still increasing slightly in the north.

He said it was difficult to predict what might happen in the next few months. If prices stabilised in the north, the overall drop in prices during the year would be no more than five per cent in the 0-5 per cent bracket, but if they fell the average reduction

could be between five and 10 per cent.

"In the south the ratio between incomes and house prices went too high, and that meant the prices had to come down. In the north, prices never got out of hand, so it is possible that prices will not fall there," Mr Marsh said.

The Halifax does not expect an increase in prices until next year, but on the back of anticipated reductions in the interest rates suggests a strong recovery in 1991.

In a commentary on the property market published at the weekend, Mr David Goldstone, chairman of the developers Regalian Properties, predicted that the housing market would not recover fully before the next general election.

Religious broadcasts 'climbdown'

THE Government is to relax the rules governing religious broadcasts on television but will introduce new safeguards against exploitation by extreme religious cults (Sheila Gunn writes).

Amendments to the Broadcasting Bill will be tabled in the Lords in response to a campaign to allow religious groups to transmit special programmes and, in effect, to "sell" their brand of evangelism. Earl Ferrers, the Lords Home Office Minister, yesterday disclosed a climbdown by the Government which had originally opposed changing the present rules which specify "no editorializing" in religious programmes.

Damage charge

Mr Mike Hutchinson, aged 35, and Mr Stephen Hancock, aged 23, peace campaigners from London, were yesterday sent for trial at Oxford Crown Court accused of damaging an F-111 jet at RAF Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, and possessing two mallets intending to cause damage.

Terrier killed

Mr Stephen Harris, a young jockey, has complained to police at Newbury, Berkshire, after a Rottweiler belonging to the leading racehorse trainer Jenny Pitman killed his Jack Russell terrier. Mrs Pitman said she was sorry about what had happened but insisted that her dog was safe.

SDP continues

Members of the SDP in Greenwich voted unanimously not to wind-up the party in the borough. At an emergency meeting of the management committee, a working party, including the MPs Mrs Rosie Barnes and Mr John Cartwright, was set up to examine the party's future in the borough.

Paraquat alert

Doctors are investigating an outbreak of keratoconjunctivitis, a condition that can develop into skin cancer, among five workers at ICI's Pilkington Sullivan works in Widnes, Cheshire. The men are all employed in a division of the plant that manufactures paraquat.

Defence calls in former chief executive to give evidence in long-running Guinness fraud trial

Saunders tells of two years of strife to save company

By PAUL WILKINSON

MR ERNEST SAUNDERS told the Guinness trial in London yesterday that when he was appointed chief executive of the brewing empire it was on the verge of financial ruin.

His immediate task was to save it from collapse, which he achieved within two years, he said. He then set about building the company into an international force.

It was the first time since the trial opened 17 weeks ago that the jury at Southwark Crown Court has heard directly from Mr Saunders as he began his evidence in his defence. He told the jury, which includes four women, that shortly before he joined the company in 1981 its shares were falling so fast that he thought "there soon would not be a company to join".

One press report said no dividend would be paid that year and a check of file information on the company led him to believe that he might be dismissed after only 12 months because the profits would be so low. However, he accepted the offer of a £70,000 salary and a £20,000 non-pensionable supplement to join the company.

Mr Saunders and three other leading City figures deny 24 counts of theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act arising out of the Guinness takeover in 1986 of the Scottish drinks firm, Distillers, and alleged illegal share support operations. With Mr Saunders in the dock is Gerald Ronson, chairman of the Heron International group of companies, Anthony Parnes, a stockbroker, and Sir Jack Lyons, the millionaire financier.

Mr Saunders told the jury that when he joined the company its core enterprise was the brewing of draught stout but that the business was stagnant and profits were declining. His counsel, Mr Richard Ferguson, QC, asked him: "In terms of management, what did you find?"

Mr Saunders: "There wasn't any. It was an extraordinary

situation. The management was in the hands of what you would say were a series of barons".

Mr Ferguson: "In terms of professionalism how would you rate it?"

Mr Saunders: "Zero. There was no cohesive management. It was split entirely between many, many businesses. An extraordinary hotch potch from snakepit venom to baby potties." The only properly managed part of the business was the technical side of the brewery, but that was not being marketed properly, he said. That needed £100 million spending on it, money Guinness did not have.

He undertook a whistle-stop tour of the 200 subsidiary companies. Guinness then controlled. "The results were terrifying," he said.

One of his early tasks was to estimate the company from what Mr Saunders called "the film fiasco", in which the company had ventured into the movie business, committing itself to £100 million of film making.

In the early stages, Mr Saunders said, he got rid of 149 subsidiary companies, bringing in £49 million in revenue, equal to a year's profits. He said his immediate task on taking up his duties was "the survival of the company".

He said that although Guinness was an international firm it was run like a family business "or a club". His day began at 7am and ended when he came home in time for *News at Ten*. At the weekend he would fill his car boot with papers and attempt to get through them by Monday morning.

"I was the chief executive but I was also the chief bottle washer," he said, adding that he had needed to recruit up to 150 top and middle-ranking executives. However, the company had such a poor reputation in the City that it was difficult to find staff.

Mr Saunders began his evidence with his age, 55, and his



Mr Saunders arriving to give evidence with daughter Joanna and son James. Professionalism at Guinness when he joined was zero, he said

nationality, British. He told the court that he was receiving medical treatment on an irregular basis for a hernia which gave him pain occasionally and for a thyroid condition for which he took tablets which from time to time made him feel tired.

He told the jury that he lived in Putney, west London, with his three children, James, aged 24, Joanna, aged 25, and John, aged 17. He was born in Vienna in 1935 when his father had established a thriving practice as an obstetrician. They fled to Britain in 1938 after the Anschluss, when the German Nazis took control of Austria. He said his family had Jewish roots and they were fearful of the loss of democracy in the country and what else might happen to them.

His father had chosen Britain as it was "the home of democracy". Arriving in Britain, his father had had to start his career again, spending two years obtaining fresh British medical qualifications before plying his job around his practice on a bicycle because he was too poor to run a car.

Mr Saunders said that his father's philosophy of life was that no one should do the minimum required of their job, that they should prepare to do the best they possibly could for those who were

paying them. "This striving for excellence was a credo that my family and I tried to follow, and I have tried to do so all my life."

In the mid-1970s, when the British economy was stagnating, he opted to move to Switzerland where he could earn a large enough salary to finance his children's private education. He joined Nestlé with a post as number three in their world headquarters. It was there that he met Mr Thomas Ward, who was the American lawyer for Nestlé's

United States interests and who was subsequently to become a Guinness director with Mr Saunders and be involved in the Guinness affair.

Mr Saunders then said that the stress of the whole Guinness affair had resulted in the breakdown of his marriage to his wife Carol. They were legally separated.

Mr Ferguson, opening the case for Mr Saunders, said there could be few cases that had attracted such media interest or few people who had received such personal atten-

tion, "much of it vituperation and smear". He was appealing to the jury to give the answer to these allegations and innuendos.

Mr Saunders would be quite within his rights not to give evidence. The principles of English law said he did not have to prove his innocence. "But somehow or other you might think he had something to hide and not be prepared to take the kind of medicine which I have given to some of the prosecution witnesses. He could leave himself open to a

charge of double standards. Your disappointment that he had not given evidence might turn into bias.

"Ernest Saunders is not a man of double standards; he will give evidence knowing he will be open to cross-examination not only by the prosecution but also counsel for the other defendants. Every answer he gives will be read carefully and sifted."

Mr Ferguson said the prosecution case was "utopian, supported and buttressed by all the resources available."

There was no cohesive management ... an extraordinary hotch potch from snake venom to baby potties

£10,000 reward as police hunt post office killers

By ALISON CAMERON

THE Post Office last night offered a £10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of men who earlier shot dead a sub-postmaster in north-east London.

Police said Mr Rajibhai Kumari Patel, aged 59, "died a hero trying to protect money" at his sub-post office.

Mr Patel, from Limesdale Gardens, Edgware, north-west London, and his wife Nirmala, aged 54, had gone to open the sub-post office in Lower Clapton Road. When they went upstairs they were confronted by three armed and masked men, two with hand guns and one with a sawn-off shot gun.

The men, two wearing stocking masks and one with a balaclava, then handcuffed the couple and taped Mrs Patel's mouth. Mr Patel was taken by two of the men downstairs while the third stayed with Mrs Patel who heard her husband being threatened.

After she heard a shot she went down and found her husband slumped behind the counter. He had also been slashed on the hand with a knife.

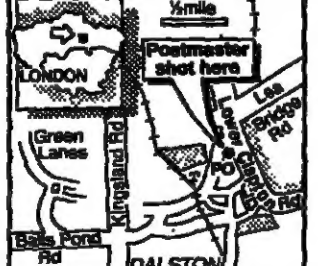
Detective Superintendent Russell Allen, who is leading the hunt for the killers, said: "Threats of violence were made against the poor victim and he eventually succumbed to a shot in the groin and collapsed and died."

Police believe the men may have fled empty-handed after

the killing and that the raiders had been keeping a watch on the sub-post office. They do not know if they used an escape car.

Mr Allen said he could not rule out the possibility of the men killing again and advised the public not to approach them.

Mr Michael George Mi-



Mr Patel, from Limesdale Gardens, Edgware, north-west London, and his wife Nirmala, aged 54, had gone to open the sub-post office in Lower Clapton Road.

Police said that they were looking for three men, who they described as black and aged between 18 and 25, of slim build and 5ft 8in to 5ft 9in tall.

At about 8.45 he heard an alarm go off. After the police arrived he saw Mrs Patel still handcuffed and Mr Patel on a stretcher.

Police said that they were

looking for three men, who they described as black and aged between 18 and 25, of slim build and 5ft 8in to 5ft 9in tall.

Police said that they were looking for three men, who they described as black and aged between 18 and 25, of slim build and 5ft 8in to 5ft 9in tall.

Pottery owls bring unexpected windfall

By JOHN SHAW

TWO small brown pottery owls with saucer eyes, identified after another one was discovered on the BBC television programme, the *Antiques Road Show*, sold for a total of £57,200 at Sotheby's, London, yesterday.

It was an unexpected windfall for two couples in different parts of the country who saw the television programme and suddenly realized they were sitting on a financial jackpot.

One owl jug came in via Sotheby's office in Chester and the other from the firm's office in Cheltenham.

The Cheshire owner, who did not like the look of his jug and banished it to the garage, was jubilant when he heard it had sold for £30,800. He said

he was going to buy a new car, pay off his mortgage and complete renovations to his home.

The 17th-century Staffordshire jug and cover, the small tubby body of an owl decorated with a marbled brown and cream pattern, was sold to Alistair Sampson, the London dealer. The second made £26,400 to Kaplan, the New York dealer.

The top lot in the sale of early English and continental ceramics was a rare English Delftware "fox" charger, circa 1670-80, in blue, turquoise green and yellow, which made £36,300 (estimate £10,000-£15,000).

The sale made a total of £945,197.

Police description of IRA terrorist lists 'silver pistol'

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

POLICE issued a photofit impression yesterday of the main suspect in the hunt for IRA terrorists who last week murdered a soldier and wounded two others at Lichfield City station. The wanted man is said to be aged between 18 and 22 and to have used a silver pistol.

Although initially disappointed by the response to an appeal for witnesses, Staffordshire police said they were now receiving a steady stream of information. That included more sightings of the red Ford Cortina in which the two gunmen are thought to have escaped. The police had, how-

ever, "virtually eliminated" from their inquiries three people being held in London under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

The Metropolitan Police were holding nine people under the Act on Monday in connection with IRA activities but refused to say yesterday how many were still being questioned.

The main suspect in the Lichfield shooting was said to have been wearing a black bomber-type jacket, possibly with white piping, black trousers, light coloured trainers and a black baseball cap.

Police say the suspected getaway car, which had a black vinyl roof, had a V or a Y suffix in its registration. Det Chief Supt Malcolm Bevington, heading the inquiry, said he was confident that the car, which had contained three people, was the escape vehicle.

It had been seen at just before 6pm on Friday on the A51 near Lichfield travelling at speed towards Tamworth.

Police have traced five witnesses to the shooting but are sure others must have seen what happened. A commuter train, containing 150 passengers, was at the platform when the gang opened fire.

Mr Bevington appealed to proprietors of hotels, guest and boarding houses and owners of rented homes to contact police if they had suspicions about former residents.

Minority group rejects history reforms

By DOUGLAS BROOM, EDUCATION REPORTER

PLANS by leaders of more than 4,000 state school history teachers to present a united front to the Government over the teaching of their subject under the National Curriculum founded yesterday.

The Historical Association is due to announce tomorrow that it is prepared to recommend its members to operate the new history curriculum provided ministers are prepared to accept minor changes. The decision to take a positive attitude towards the new curriculum was made after 13 meetings across the country, attended by a total of 1,600 teachers, had endorsed the moderate line.

However, the united front broke down yesterday when a group, led by Mr Sean Lang, a lecturer in history at Exeter University School of Education, declared its opposition to a conciliatory approach. Mr Lang took the unusual step of issuing a press release in which he declared that members of the association would be advised not to implement the curriculum unless the Government agreed to big changes.

The association, which will make its views on National Curriculum history known tomorrow, immediately repudiated Mr Lang's remarks, saying that they reflected only the views of academics at Exeter.

Although the final report of the National Curriculum History Working Group was criticized by teachers for placing too much emphasis on teaching historical facts, the Prime Minister is known to take the view that the report did not go far enough in stressing the importance of learning dates and facts.

Disunity among teachers is likely to increase pressure on Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to make further modifications to increase the factual content of the proposed syllabus.

Mr Martin Roberts, chairman of the Historical Association's Education Committee, said: "We are not in any doubt whatever about our attitude to the report. We have at least 80 per cent of teachers and people in the universities agreeing that in this report we have got something we can work with to bring about lots of really good history in schools. The last thing we want is minority views being seen as the majority view."

The heads of Britain's 30 polytechnics yesterday called on the Government to increase spending on higher education in line with the rest of Europe.

The Committee of Directors of Polytechnics, meeting in London, decided to write to the Prime Minister urging her to match a £2.5 million increase in higher education spending ordered recently by President Mitterand of France.

The Committee of Directors of Polytechnics, meeting in London, decided to write to the Prime Minister urging her to match a £2.5 million increase in higher education spending ordered recently by President Mitterand of France.

Rome police to expel 'hooligan'

PAUL Scarron, the self-styled leader of England's soccer hooligans, will be expelled from Italy as soon as possible, police said yesterday. (Reuters reports from Rome). Scarron, aged 34, was detained at the main railway station in Rome yesterday, three days before the start of the World Cup.

"As soon as we have completed the formalities he will be thrown out of the country," the Rome police chief Signor Umberto Impropita said.

Scarron was taken to headquarters for questioning, a spokesman said, adding that possible charges were being examined. He said Scarron was listed as an "undesirable alien".

Scarron has convictions for soccer-related violence and figures on a list of English hooligans Britain has given Italian police.

Study identifies missing link in Piltdown fraud

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A FORMER president of the Royal College of Surgeons who was obsessed with becoming England's most eminent anthropologist is being accused of perpetrating the greatest scientific fraud of the century.

A study by a British researcher concludes that the bogus skull, a mix of human and ape parts which became known as Piltdown man, was not the work of Charles Dawson, the Sussex lawyer and amateur geologist who found it.

The true perpetrator, according to Professor Frank Spencer, was Sir Arthur Keith, an anatomist at the Hunterian Museum of the Royal

College of Surgeons who rose to president in 1925. The claims by Professor Spencer, of the City University of New York, are based on research of rediscovered archive material in the Natural History Museum, London.

The evidence, which is to be published later in the year, identifies Keith as having created the skull - once believed to be the missing link between ape and man - and having buried it in a gravel pit near Piltdown, Sussex. Dawson's role is relegated to innocent finder or at most a minor player.

Dr Robin Cocks, head of palaeontology at the Natural History Museum, said: "Dawson was the man that some people believed was the

forger himself because he was the chief finder and it was suggested he put it there. But many people for many years have claimed that Dawson was duped and the research by Frank Spencer concludes that it was actually Keith who was behind the whole thing."

The skull, unearthed in 1913, was only exposed as a fake in 1953 after both Dawson and Keith had died.

The forger, by putting an orangutan's jaw on a human skull, had attempted to foster the belief that a large brain was responsible for prehistoric evolutionary progress. What subsequent real finds showed was that a missing link should have had an ape-like head and a human-like jaw. Why the former President of

the Royal College of Surgeons would commit such a scientific fraud may be revealed in Professor Spencer's book.

A clue, however, could lie in the often acrimonious professional rivalry of Keith and Sir Arthur Smith-Woodward, the head of palaeontology at the Natural History Museum. Dr Cocks said: "There was professional jealousy. Both were competing to be the most eminent specialists on human skeletons and bones in Britain."

Dr Fred Smith, a palaeontologist at the University of Tennessee who has studied Professor Spencer's evidence, said: "I think he makes a very good case... when you look at whose career benefited most by Piltdown, Arthur Keith's name certainly heads the list."

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Defamation case against The Times is settled

By KERRY GILL

A SETTLEMENT out of court was reached yesterday between Times Newspapers and Mr Antonas Gecas, a former mining engineer from Edinburgh, who had claimed in his court action that he was defamed by *The Times* when it was alleged in two articles that he had been an officer in the Lithuanian Auxiliary Police Battalion and had taken part in atrocities involving innocent civilians during the Second World War.

Conceding certain errors in the articles, the newspaper however indicated that it was prepared to stand firm against Mr Gecas's main complaint about allegations of war atrocities. A judge will now be asked to sign a minute of order absolving the newspaper of any further liability. At the Court of Session in Edinburgh, Scotland's supreme civil court, lawyers for Mr Gecas effectively dropped the action against *The Times*. Times Newspapers will not pay any damages to Mr Gecas, but have agreed only to pay an undisclosed sum towards his legal costs and apologise for the specific inaccuracies admitted.

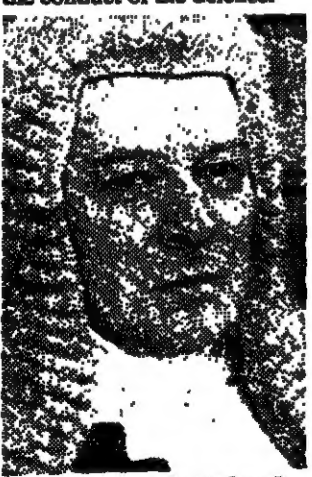
Mr Brian Gill, QC, told the court that the action would not now proceed as both parties had agreed to the wording of a statement to the court, sitting before Lord Marloch.

Mr Gill said: "On August 20 and 21 1987, *The Times* published two articles which are referred to on record. These articles contained allegations against Mr Gecas for which he raised the present action.

"In May 1990 the defendants lodged a minute of amendment admitting that the articles contained a number of inaccuracies. These were that he had been an officer in the SS, had admitted to being an officer in a specialist SS murder squad and that he had had an SS tattoo."

As Mr Gecas, aged 74, sat stony faced in court between his lawyers, Mr Gill added: "The defendants now acknowledge that in respect of these specific matters the articles were inaccurate. The defendants retract and apologise for these specific inaccuracies."

Both sides agreed that the case should be continued for seven days so that a joint agreement could ask the court to absolve Times Newspapers with no award of expenses to either side. It was accepted by both sides that the defence counsel had acted properly in the conduct of the defence.



Lord Marloch: Refused to adjourn case

TV drama 'helping terrorists'

SIR John Hermon, former Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, yesterday accused Yorkshire Television of "giving succour to terrorists" in its portrayal of the Stalker affair in the four-hour drama documentary, *Shoot To Kill* (Edward Gorman writes).

Speaking on Independent Television News, Sir John described the film, shown throughout the United Kingdom except in Ulster, as not truthful and without credibility.

He said the film, in which he was played by an actor, was ill advised and its negative portrayal of the RUC damaged the integrity of the force and the efforts of the security forces in Northern Ireland.

Sir John also accused the film makers, Zenith Productions, of making up scenes in which he was allegedly involved. He has declined so far to take legal action.

Mr Peter Kosminsky, director of *Shoot To Kill*, rejected the criticisms. He said Sir John would have to stand up his allegations against the film and pointed out that Mr John Stalker, the former deputy chief constable of Manchester, had seen the film and expressed himself satisfied with it.

False rape claim led to attack

A TEENAGE girl's "wicked and evil" lies about being raped caused an innocent student to be tortured and beaten up by four youths acting in revenge.

Yesterday, the judge at Winchester Crown Court who sentenced the youths, demanded to know why the girl, who watched the attack, had not been prosecuted. Judge Alexander Lauriston, QC, was told that the decision had been taken by a solicitor in the Crown Prosecution Service. The judge said it seemed "a very strange decision".

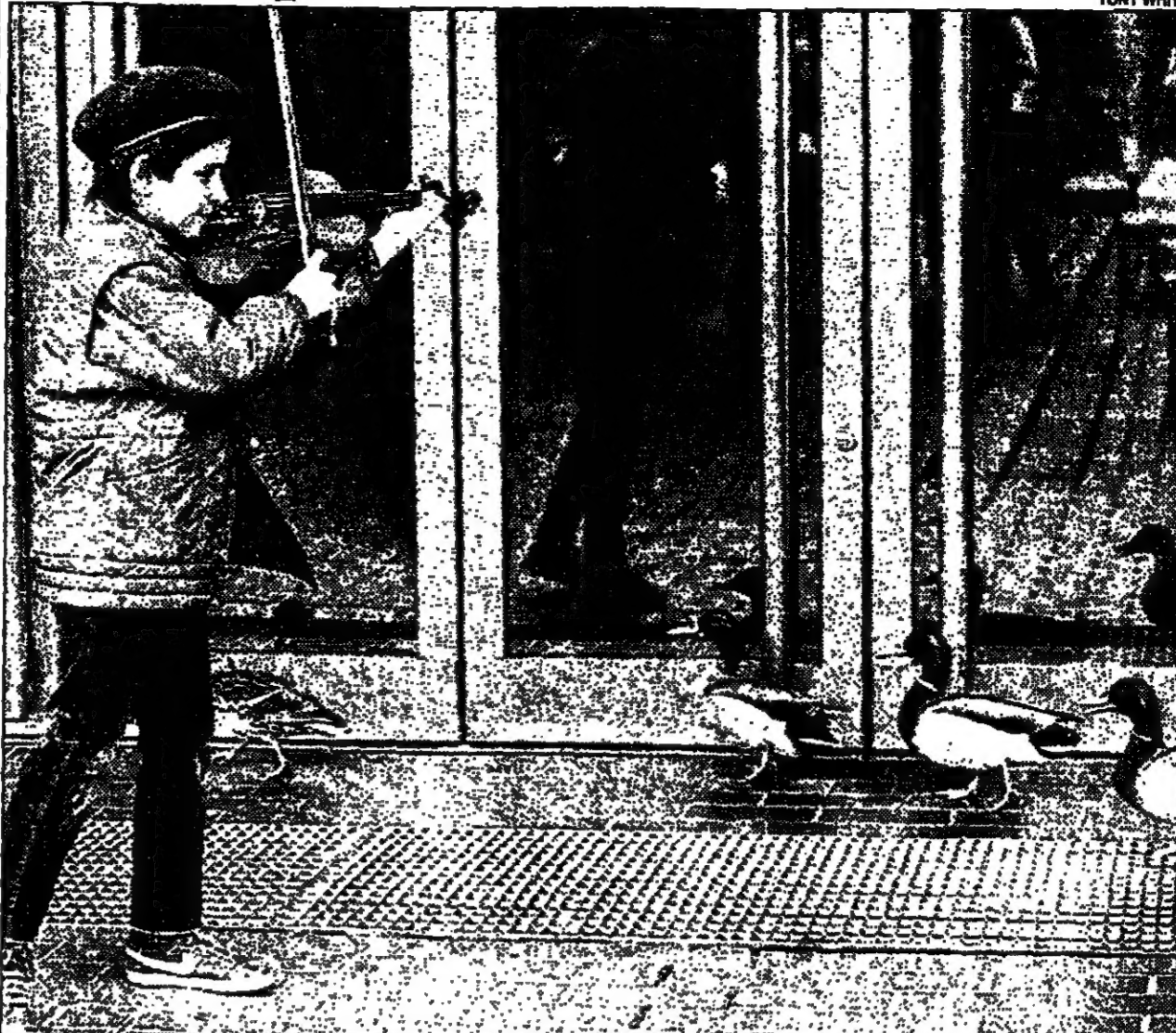
He had heard how Miss Victoria Greenslade, a student aged 18, of Andover, Hampshire, had willingly consented to sexual intercourse with a fellow college student, Mr Brian Tozer, aged 19. Later, though, she told her boyfriend she had been raped for fear he would find out about it.

The girl told the youths where Mr Tozer could be found and watched as they stripped him naked, beat him and stabbed on cigarettes on his chest for 10 minutes.

The boy friend, John Giffedder, aged 20; Nicholas Ayres, aged 19; Jason Brisk, 19; and Jason Scott, 18, all from Andover, admitted affray and were sent to an institution for young offenders for 12 months.

'Pied Piper' violinist leads the ducks

TONY WHITE



Vlad Bourceanu, one of 45 young Romanian musicians visiting London, outside the Barbican Centre yesterday. The players are to give a gala concert at the Festival Hall on Monday for the Romanian Orphanage Trust.

Scientists' notes increase doubts in Maguire tests

By MICHAEL HORNSNELL

VITAL notes taken by scientists who analysed swabs from the Maguire family increased doubts yesterday about the reliability of forensic evidence used to convict them in the IRA bomb factory case 14 years ago.

Concern about the evidence given to the jury about traces of nitroglycerine allegedly found on them increased as 150 pages of notes were examined during the judicial inquiry into the wrongful convictions of the Guildford Four as well as the related Maguire case. The notes came from the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment (RARDE) which made the tests in 1974/5 and provided the inquiry with selected pages from notebooks.

Mrs Annie Maguire, now aged 54, her husband Patrick, 57, their sons Patrick, 29, and Vincent, 31, and three others were sentenced to between five and 14 years in 1976 after IRA pub bombings in England in 1974. If the inquiry, led by Sir John May, the former Court of Appeal judge, accepts counsel's submission, the Maguire convictions could be quashed.

Yesterday, Mr Ian Burnett, junior counsel for the inquiry, examined the original notebooks of five government scientists from the RARDE material, including one belonging to a trainee, Mr David Wyndham, aged 18. Mr Wyndham made sensitive scientific tests for explosive but they were so positive that even the chief scientist was surprised, the inquiry has been told.

The inquiry had been told the IRA was not using another explosive, PETN, at the time and therefore scientists did not pay much attention to it. But Mr Burnett said PETN figured more prominently than people might have thought from evidence. He demonstrated that results from tests for nitroglycerine were reported as positive though the notebooks indicated they were outside the margin of error discussed at the trial and at the inquiry. Mr Burnett said the notebook gave no indication that samples of alleged nitroglycerine turned pink as they should do.

The inquiry has been told by Mr Anthony Arlidge, QC, representing the Maguire family, from Kilburn, north London, that the forensic tests which led to their conviction could have been deliberately contaminated. The hearing continues today.

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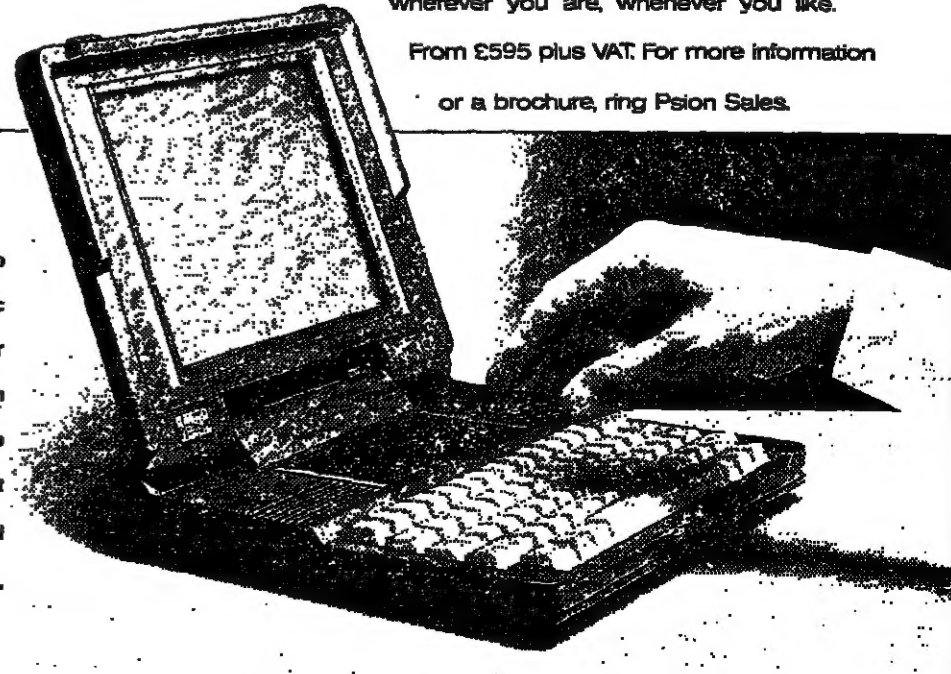
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Councils fail to tackle recycling of ozone-damaging chemicals

By NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

FEW local authorities have schemes for recovering and recycling chemicals that damage the ozone layer in spite of a high awareness among councils of international obligations, according to a survey for the Government.

Technologies are readily available for tackling many of the industrial and domestic sources of such substances, but only one fifth of the 326 councils questioned have programmes and many of these are under review.

Ozone-damaging chemicals such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFC) and halons are found in a wide range of products including

fire extinguishers, solvents and spray cans. Yet of the 65 local authorities with schemes in operation, most are aimed solely at domestic refrigerators with many just collecting machines.

Only two authorities were found to be collecting, recovering and recycling fridge coolant, with no authorities considering recovery from foam, extinguishers or solvents. Of the 361 authorities without schemes, about a third said they were planning to implement projects this year. Most of those will again limit themselves to domestic fridges. Some are, however, planning also to tackle industrial coolants.

Of the rest, 43 per cent said they were considering or had rejected

schemes on grounds of cost, administrative difficulties or uncertainties over the supply of fridges and demand for the service. The remainder would not yet appear to have considered whether to develop a scheme at all.

These are just some of the details to emerge from a report compiled by Cooper and Lybrand Deloitte on behalf of the Department of Trade and Industry. It examined the effectiveness of measures to cut ozone-harming chemicals including switching to alternatives, re-using existing substances or destroying soiled chemicals, in the light of expected tougher international controls.

Since the Montreal Protocol, the country's consumption of halons has risen from 9,000 to

10,000 tonnes per year based on the chemicals' ozone-depleting potential. "Action is still needed to meet the Protocol's requirements that it should be held at or below the 1986 level from January 1992," the report says.

Britain has cut its consumption of CFCs by more than the agreed 50 per cent from about 63,000 tonnes in 1986 to just over 31,000 tonnes by last year based on their ozone-depleting potential. This has mainly been achieved, however, by a significant reduction in the level of CFCs used as propellants for spray cans.

Later this month ministers from around the world will meet in London to debate the Protocol and some experts believe harsh emission rules could be agreed

calling for an elimination of CFC production and consumption by July 1997 with similar rules on halons by July 2000.

To meet the rules, not only will the continued manufacture of ozone-harming chemicals have to be addressed but the store of such chemicals, trapped in everything from old fridges to fire extinguishers, will have to be tackled. The report concludes that technologically and economically Britain could achieve the significant reductions needed to meet tough new rules.

The report's authors argue for improved awareness campaigns aimed at alerting the public and private sectors to the Protocol and the technical and practical solutions. Expanding recovery and

re-cycling schemes is identified in the report as one area offering enormous potential to cut emissions. Local authorities, with their waste collection and disposal infrastructure, could do more if they were shown how to cut recovery and recycling costs.

In attempting to meet tougher emission restrictions, a particular area of focus should be the favourable economics of recycling and recovery of solvents, industrial and retail refrigeration and fire extinguishers, the report argues. Guidelines on labelling, which highlight the opportunity for recovery and recycling, should be examined. The provision of advice and guidance for organizations, companies and councils operating such schemes to ensure

best practice should also be studied. Some funds might be well spent on cutting the costs of destroying chemicals through support of research and development of better technologies or subsidies.

Mr Eric Forth, industry minister with responsibility for the environment, said: "The Government has made it clear that it is fully committed to the elimination of ozone-damaging CFCs as soon as practically possible and certainly by the year 2000." He urged those involved to increase recycling and acknowledged the role of local authorities and the private sector in achieving targets.

CFCs and Halons: Alternatives and the Scope for Recovery for Recycling and Destruction. (HMSO, £2.1)

PETER TRENBOR

Minister tells resort councils to display water quality notices

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

ALL English seaside resorts are being requested to indicate publicly whether or not their bathing waters meet European Community sewage pollution standards, including those which fail, Mr David Trippier, the Minister for the Environment and the Countryside, announced yesterday.

In an unprecedented reversal of traditional seaside publicity, the requirement will mean that a resort such as Blackpool, whose three beaches failed to meet the standard last year, will be expected to display notices saying the water is unsatisfactory.

Mr Trippier said he would not use legislation to compel the resorts to post up their notice of failure, but he expected a "positive response" to his request, which is to be made through the Association of District Councils. Any authority failing to comply would obviously be giving the wrong signal to visitors, he said.

The idea met with a less than enthusiastic response yesterday from Mr Tom Percival, the leader of Blackpool

EUROPEAN BLUE FLAG AWARDS

Country	Beaches
Spain	137
Denmark	128
France	102
Portugal	101
Greece	83
Irish Republic	48
Great Britain	29
Italy	28
The Netherlands	21
Germany	17
Belgium	4

Council who said: "We will consider it." Asked if the resort would relish the idea of announcing that its bathing waters did not meet accepted sewage standards, he said: "We will cross that bridge when we come to it."

However, Mr Roy Thompson, of Bournemouth, chairman of the Association of District Councils, said: "We will want to look at this very carefully, but I would react positively to the idea."

"The difficulty is that our authorities do not have control over sewage pollution, which is in the hands of the water companies, but if this proposal will strengthen their hands in putting more pres-

sure on the companies, we will welcome it," he said.

Mr Trippier made his announcement as the row over bathing water quality, which has led to a prosecution of Britain in the European Court, continued in London at the 1990 Blue Flag Awards for Europe's cleanest beaches, in which Britain had one of the worst records in the Community.

Only 29 British beaches were awarded the coveted Blue Flag, given for meeting a wide and demanding range of quality standards, compared to 137 in Spain, 128 in Denmark, 102 in France, 101 in Portugal, 83 in Greece and 48 in the Irish Republic.

Mr Trippier, who presented the awards to the British winners, and Mr Nicholas Hood, chairman of Wessex Water, put a bullish face on the situation, insisting that bathing water quality was being brought under control by massive investment in sewage treatment works.

However, Professor Graham Ashworth, chairman of the Tidy Britain Group which organized the judging with the Water Services Association and the English Tourist Board, struck a different note, saying: "Britain's beaches are national disgrace."

"The nation that is so proud of its achievements on the beaches of Dunkirk leaves its own shores in a disgusting state. Festooned with litter of all shapes and sizes, the beaches are a grim condemnation of people who tolerate squalid behaviour in public places that would be unthinkable in their own homes."

His verdict on the British Blue Flag results was that "less than half of the beaches that entered actually received an award." He added: "Many authorities invest far too little in creating a decent quality of environment at the coast. Proper segregation of users, clean and plentiful toilet facilities, adequate siting, dog control and medical facilities all require urgent attention before the number of Blue Flags will increase."

To win a Blue Flag, beaches must meet 18 quality standards. The best results in Britain came from Torbay, where five beaches won awards. Most of the winners were concentrated on the south and south-west coast. Apart from Magilligan beach in Northern Ireland, there were none in the West north of Pembrokeshire, and only one - Sandhaven in Northumberland - on the east coast north of East Anglia.

Mr Trippier's request for publication of EC bathing water standards will go to authorities representing the 353 designated bathing beaches in England, but it is understood that the Secretary of State for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland may consider similar action.



First steps in fashion: Joseph Mitchell, Donatella Panayiotou and Joseph Waller modelling prize-winning clothes from the Courtelle Awards for student designers. The collections will be on display at the Design Centre, The Haymarket, central London, until July 29

Pru chief expected to take over at South Bank

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE new chairman of the South Bank Centre is expected to be Sir Brian Corby, chairman of the Prudential Corporation and president of the Confederation of British Industry.

It is understood that Sir Brian, who would not comment last night, has been sounded out and would be prepared to serve if asked. He would succeed Mr Ronald Grierson, chairman since the board was formed in 1986, who is due to retire next spring.

His appointment would represent an unprecedented link between the arts and the commercial community which, behind the scenes, Sir Brian has done much to enhance.

Sir Brian, aged 61, is not yet a member of the South Bank Board but when it meets on June 19 his co-option is expected. With the board's approval, his name would then go to the arts minister as

its recommendation for the post. An announcement would be made at the end of the month.

The board was created in 1986 to take control of the South Bank Centre from the Greater London Council and is a separate client of the Arts Council, from which it became independent in 1988. The centre includes the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Purcell Room, and the Hayward Gallery.

An application has been made for planning permission for a £200 million scheme which would transform the centre into the world's biggest integrated arts complex. The scheme, devised by the Terry Farrell architectural partner-

ship and to be financed by Stanhope Properties, would include a new building with rehearsal and recording studios, a cinema, underground parking and an outdoor bowl for arts activities. The board hopes work will start in 1994. Last autumn the South Bank was hit by a series of strikes over pay. During the year the centre ran up a budget deficit of £1.1 million, but it is expected this will be cleared by the end of this financial year. In the funding boost given to the arts this year by the Government, the Arts Council grant was increased by 8 per cent from £10.67 million to £11.5 million.

Sir Brian, who was knighted in last year's Birthday Hon-

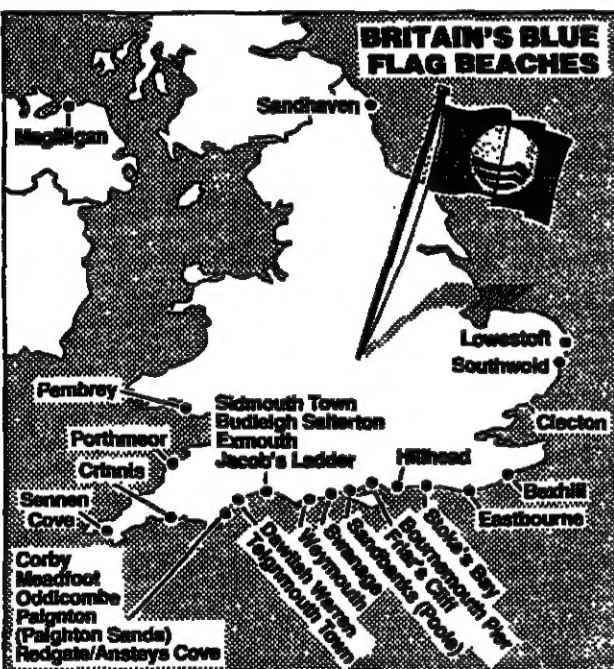
ours List, was chief executive of the Prudential from 1982 until becoming deputy chairman a year ago and chairman last month. He is also a director of the Bank of England and is involved in Business in the Community, a scheme to encourage commerce to become involved in urban regeneration particularly through the arts.

In recent years the Prudential has become one of the most generous business sponsors of the arts, with a budget of about £1 million dedicated to cultural patronage.

It spends £200,000 a year on the Prudential Great Orchestras scheme, which pays for the four main London symphony orchestras - the

London Philharmonic, the Royal Philharmonic, the London Symphony and the Philharmonia, to tour the regions. Another £200,000 goes to the Prudential Arts Awards in which companies in five categories - music, dance, theatre, visual arts and opera - win £25,000 prizes for innovation with a major prize of £75,000.

The Prudential has for the last seven years sponsored South Bank concerts by the London Philharmonic Orchestra which is expected to become the South Bank's first resident orchestra next year. All sponsorship, however, is under review by Sir Brian's successor as chief executive, Mr Michael Newmark.



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Exhausts blamed for rise in hay fever

By PEARCE WRIGHT, SCIENCE EDITOR

SCIENTISTS believe that air pollution from car exhausts is causing a rise in hay fever, which should otherwise be in decline because of a drop in the pollen count over the past 20 years.

The evidence linking air pollution and hay fever was presented in London yesterday by Dr Jean Emberlin, of the pollen research unit in the department of geography, Polytechnic of North London. Dr Duncan Laxen, of the air pollution monitoring group of London Scientific Services, and Dr Tom Smith, a general practitioner.

Pollen levels have fallen with changes in agricultural practice and the types of grass grown for silage, according to Dr Emberlin. Grass is cut before it flowers and much earlier than in traditional haymaking, she said. Consequently, the

concentration for the whole of June of "second-hand pollen" (that blown from the countryside) in the air of London, has fallen from over 4,500 grains a cubic metre 20 years ago to between 1,500 and 2,000.

Conversely, Dr Laxen reported a rise in levels of nitrogen oxides from car exhausts over the same period. Dr Smith says the evidence implicating fumes from car exhausts, and nitrogen dioxide in particular, has come from studies in a number of European cities. The theory is that the fumes, which are well established as irritants, interfere with the linings of the nose and make them more sensitive to pollens.

The findings were supported by other figures relating to pollen levels and atmospheric pollution reported yes-

terday. The 24-hour pollen count forecast for 20 towns issued by the National Pollen and Hay Fever Bureau at 9am yesterday, showed low levels for all of them. A low measurement is anything below 50 grains a cubic metre. In addition, a study made for independent television's *Thames Report* between May 3 and May 8, shows that nitrogen dioxide, a major constituent of the photochemical smog monitored by London Scientific Services, breached the World Health Organization guidelines for 38 hours.

The second key ingredient of smog, low level ozone, also failed to meet WHO guidelines. The survey also found traces of benzene, a known cancer agent, for which there are no safe exposure levels.

New fiver keeps Bank in front of criminal competitors

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE Bank of England yesterday unveiled its new £5 note, the first in a series which, over the next four years, will replace all existing notes with smaller ones, to some extent reflecting their diminished purchasing power.

The new "bottom of the range" fiver assumes the proportions that once belonged to the discontinued £1 note. Its predominant colour is turquoise instead of the familiar blue, the portrait of the Queen on the front is of a noticeably older woman, and the design incorporates several new security features which, the Bank says, are intended to "keep us ahead of our criminal competitors".

Forgery, Mr Malcolm Gill, the Bank's chief cashier, said yesterday, is not a problem (though there was a spate of dud £10 and £20 notes in the mid-eighties) but: "Prevention is better than cure. Forgers are no longer lone craftsmen working in garden sheds. They are likely to use the most modern copying

machinery available." The carefully variegated colours of the new notes have been deliberately chosen to be difficult for such machinery to match, and additionally the new £5 note will have a "windowed" thread (which appears as silver dashes when looked at flat but as a continuous black line when held to the light) like that already used in £10, £20 and £50 notes.

The number of each note still appears twice on its front, but at the top left it is now printed in multi-colour numerals of varying height, while down the right edge the numerals are in a single colour and of uniform height. A new watermark portrait of the Queen is to be reproduced in a registered position in all the notes of the new series, instead of continuously.

The new design, by Mr Roger Worthington, also incorporates for the first time the international copyright symbol, and a coloured symbol to help the partially-sighted. In the case of the £5 note it is a



The £5 note: The Queen and George Stephenson plus improved security features

turquoise tinted circle. Later designs for the higher value notes in the series will use triangles and squares as distinguishing marks.

The back of the £5 note carries the portrait of George Stephenson, the railway pioneer, opposite illustrations of projects with which he was associated - Locomotion, the Rocket and the Stockton and Darlington Railway. After having to pulp some notes

because Stephenson's birth date was wrong, and having weathered criticism of their subject's sometimes less than straightforward financial dealings, the Bank's designers and printers have now done so much research into his life and works that they are producing a booklet about him.

In another commercial innovation, the Bank will be offering special packs of old and new £5 notes for sale to

collectors. Mr Gill said yesterday that he expects most of the present Series D £5 notes (with the Duke of Wellington on the reverse) to be replaced within six months, and almost all in a year. The Bank has already printed 200 million new notes and is producing them at the rate of 2½ million a day.

There are at present 300 million £5 notes in circulation, and each has an average

life of nine to 10 months. Next year the Bank intends to replace the £20 note with a smaller one carrying a portrait of the chemist and physicist Michael Faraday, coinciding with the bicentenary of his birth. The new £10 note, expected to appear in 1992, will feature Charles Dickens, while the £50 note, which is scheduled for release by early 1994, the Bank of England's tercentenary year, is to carry a portrait of Sir John Lubbock, who was the Bank's first governor, from 1694 to 1697.

Mr Nigel Beville-Smith, research and development manager at the Bank's printing works, said that he expected the Bank to save "a few million pounds" a year from the reduction in size of the notes.

The speed with which the new notes could be introduced would depend partly on the speed with which telling machines could be adapted to deal with them, but no machinery will have to be replaced because of the changes, a spokesman said.

Decision to cap councils 'a breach of power'

By DAVID SARSTED

THE Government's decision to cap 21 Labour-controlled councils for setting too high a poll tax was branded a breach of both power and "elementary fairness" in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Anthony Scriven, QC, representing four of the capped authorities, accused Mr Chris Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, of only deciding on the criteria for penalising alleged over-spending authorities after they had already set their community charge levels. "It was like playing a game of football and being told afterwards they should have been playing a game of rugby," he said.

The attack on the way the Government had used its powers under the 1988 Local Government Finance Act was made on the opening day of an application by 19 of the 21 authorities for a judicial review in the High Court of the way the Government reached its capping decisions.

If the councils lose it could cause enormous financial problems in the affected boroughs because the financial year is already under way and the councils are still operating on budgets deemed unacceptable by Whitehall. If the Government loses it will provide fresh ammunition for the many critics of the poll tax.

The importance of the review, before Lord Justice Leggatt sitting with Mr Justice McCullough and Mr Justice Roch, was illustrated by the presence in court of seven QCs and 13 other barristers. "This must be the largest assemblage of talent ever seen in this court for the purpose of presenting an issue such as this since Thomas Erskine appeared alone," Lord Justice Leggatt observed, in a reference to the occasion almost 200 years ago when Lord Erskine, then Attorney General to the Prince of Wales and later Lord Chancellor, successfully defended Thomas Paine, the radical, for publishing *The Rights of Man*.

Mr Scriven, representing the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, Bexley, Calderdale, and Rochdale, said that not even the Government had suggested the councils had acted unlawfully when they set community charge levels. At no time before the capping announcement had councillors known what criteria would be used for assessing over-spending.

He maintained that Mr Patten had taken into account factors which would not have been considered by the local authorities. The minister, he contended, was in breach of the powers under the 1988 Act as he had "deliberately" failed to notify the authorities of these factors until after they had set their poll tax.

At the heart of the authorities' case is the claim that Mr Patten failed to take proper account of the councils' spending needs when deciding which should be capped. It is said that the minister unlawfully used standard spending assessments (SSAs), introduced this year as a basis for distributing government grant, to determine if charge levels were too high, when they were never designed for that purpose.

Mr Scriven said the 1988 Act should be interpreted as allowing an electorate the choice to vote for a high-spending authority. "If you are a high-spending authority then you must be judged at the ballot box," he said.

The hearing continues today.

Legal action against 3,500 people who have not paid their poll tax to South Tyneside Metropolitan Council has been postponed to avoid the legal hitch which last week resulted in Medina District Council, Isle of Wight, withdrawing more than 1,800 summonses. The Labour-controlled council, however, said it would be re-serving the summonses when it was certain sufficient time had elapsed since the receipt of final notices.



Musical retreat: Horse Guards Parade is reflected in the tuba of a musician from the 2nd Gurkha Rifles during a rehearsal for the Beating of the Retreat by the Massed Bands of the Scottish Division in London yesterday. The Gurkhas and troops from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Malaysia and the Officer Training Corps will join 500 Scottish pipers, drummers and other musicians for three parades next week.

Hillingdon vows to fight as Hounslow lands Heathrow

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

NOTHING, it seemed, could unite the councillors of the London Borough of Hillingdon—until Whitehall decided it would take Heathrow airport out of their control.

Immediately, the 35 Conservative and 34 Labour councillors raised a single voice of protest at the Local Government Boundary Commission's proposals to put Heathrow under the control of Hounslow.

"It's lunacy to take the airport away from one authority which has got the knowledge and expertise built up over more than 40 years of running services there," said Mr Andrew Boff, leader of the council, which gained a Tory majority of one in the local elections. The council would fight all the way, he said.

Hillingdon does not even

get much income from the airport. Under the old rating system, the airport paid rates to the local authority and helped to keep domestic rates low. Since the introduction of the poll tax, however, Heathrow's money goes into a central pool and is distributed among all councils according to population. As a result Hillingdon set a poll tax of £366.91—a figure which was capped and which the incoming Tories promised to reduce to £289.91.

The Boundaries Commission has spent more than three years investigating the problem of who should be responsible for Heathrow. Hillingdon said that the whole of the airport should fall within its influence rather than the 72 per cent that does today, with the dividing line splitting the arrivals and departures areas of Terminal Four and the Duty Free shop.

Labour-controlled Hounslow claimed that it should be responsible because its residents were most affected. Spelthorne Borough Council, which has a minor responsibility, wanted the three-way split to continue, and Heathrow Airport Ltd wanted not only the whole of the airport to go to Hillingdon but to extend it to a much wider area.

The Commission agreed that there was a strong case for the airport to be within the area of a single authority. Because Hounslow had the largest share of Heathrow employees and the greatest single number of residents severely affected by noise, it chose Hounslow. The outrage in Hillingdon was enormous.

Greece drops lorry charges

FROM CHRISTOPHER ELIOU IN ATHENS

MR PAUL Ashwell, the British lorry driver held in Greece, was yesterday free to return home after a court dismissed charges against him of transporting part of an alleged Iraqi "super gun".

The three-member Court of Misdemeanours upheld an earlier recommendation by a public prosecutor taking that charges against the driver, aged 26, from Northampton be dropped because of insufficient evidence. His vehicle and trailer, which were impounded when he was arrested on April 6 in the western port of Patras, will be released. His load, alleged to be part of a giant gun, will stay in a military camp pending a decision about its fate.

The Iraqi government asked Greece last

month to release the tubes which it insisted were destined for a petro-chemical complex. Yesterday, the Iraqi Embassy in Athens said no reply had been received.

Mr Ashwell was on his way to Turkey to deliver the 29.5-tonne load when he was arrested after British Customs tipped their Greek counterparts about the load.

He was originally remanded in custody and was given bail early in May when the charge was reduced to a misdemeanour but he was barred from leaving Greece.

Mr Ashwell said that as a result of his arrest and detention in Greece, his haulage business had collapsed, and that he would probably also lose his home because it was tied to the business.

Sheffield winning World Student Games marathon

By RONALD FAUX

STAGING the World Student Games in July 1991 has become a marathon rather than an invigorating sprint for Sheffield. The event which is expected to attract world leaders, 6,000 competitors and officials and tens of thousands of spectators to the city, has been saved from collapse by a £1 million injection by the city council.

This has guaranteed the prestigious competition for Sheffield using its national and international contacts to market the games and secure sponsorship.

The 40 staff at Universiad GB Ltd, the World Student Games company which has unsuccessfully tried to promote and find sponsors for the games and is now wound up, were told yesterday that their contracts would end.

Mr Roger Taylor, of Peat Marwick McLintock, the accountants, was appointed to advise on the "orderly wind-down" of the company over the next three months.

Mr Clive Betts, leader of Sheffield City Council, was confident yesterday that the city would not be left clutching an embarrassingly large bill. The £1 million the council had agreed to put up was purely to prime the pump and reassure potential sponsors who had become doubtful about the future of the games.

The council clearly hopes that the wind-up of Universiad GB will close the door on

the negative publicity that has surrounded the games and the hiatus caused by the sacking last December of Mr Peter Burns, the chief executive, followed by the resignation of the finance director. "It was in an administrative shambles but this has been resolved and financial expenditure is under control. But the publicity has been damaging," Mr Betts said.

The council is convinced that the games will bring much more to Sheffield than a series of world class sporting events. Mr Betts sees them as one part of the city's regeneration, a catalyst that will leave a legacy of improvements in housing and facilities and promote a good image of the city.

The mid 1980s were a bad time for the city with cuts made in the steel and heavy engineering industries that made Sheffield famous. The loss of jobs and production capacity was massive. "We needed something to help reverse that," he said.

Creating the new sports facilities, the stadia, swimming pools and indoor tennis courts, has cost £150 million. The line of Hyde Park council flats, which overlook the centre of Sheffield, has been transformed into the games village. With about £20 million invested by the city council and a housing association, the village will provide 500 flats for single people and young couples without children when the games are over.

Plans still under consideration include a "Super Tram" system to transport athletes around the city from the village to the competitions. This would remain as a useful addition to the city's public transport. Among the spin-offs already achieved have been the restoration of the Lyceum Theatre in Tudor Square and agreement on a new city centre hotel to be opened in time for the games.

Youth in Blakelock case 'put through sheer hell'

By QUENTIN COWDRY
HOME AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

A YOUTH whose mistreatment by police investigating the 1985 Tottenham riot has led to a senior policeman being found guilty of a disciplinary offence said yesterday he had gone through "sheer hell" while being questioned by detectives.

Mr Jason Hill, aged 13 at the time, was held for three days by police without access to his parents or solicitors. He eventually confessed to helping to murder PC Keith Blakelock after being repeatedly interrogated while wrapped in a blanket wearing only underpants.

He was later acquitted on the direction of the trial judge, Mr Justice Hodgson, who described his confession as a fantasy. His treatment by police had been "burdensome, harsh, wrong and unjust", the judge said.

"I went through sheer hell," Mr Hill, now 18 and unemployed, said. "I felt totally alone and frightened because I thought I was going to prison." He said the police's investigation had been "all wrong" and should now be subjected to a full independent inquiry.

Det. Chief Supt. Graham Melvin, who headed the murder inquiry, was found guilty on Monday by a Scotland Yard disciplinary tribunal of failing to ensure the suspect had access to solicitors and, therefore, disobeying standing orders. Allegations that he abused his authority and was an accessory to a disciplinary offence were rejected.

The tribunal, comprising two members of the Police Complaints Authority and a deputy assistant commissioner, has recommended that the officer be punished, but the nature of the recommendation is not being disclosed. It is understood, however, that he is unlikely to be dismissed or demoted.

Mr Melvin, who qualifies for retirement in November, is to appeal against the decision to Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary. He is presently head of the Yard's Organised Crime Task Force.

Mrs Barbara Hill, Mr Hill's mother, speaking at a press conference at Broadwater Farm, Tottenham, the scene of the riot, said her son had been turned from a "happy-go-lucky" youngster into a young man "with no future".

Mr Andy Hall, the solicitor acting for Winston Silcott, aged 30, jailed for life together with Mark Braithwaite, aged 22, and Engin Rahip, aged 23, for murdering PC Blakelock, claimed the case found against Mr Melvin put the convictions of the "Tottenham Three" into doubt.

"Great doubt has been placed on the credibility and professionalism of the officer in charge of those investigations," Mr Hall said.



Mr Melvin: Found guilty of a disciplinary offence

Leading article, page 15

Warning on fish

An operation was launched yesterday to remove fish from a river following the discovery of PCBs, a chemical compound on the Government's list of dangerous substances.

The public was warned not to eat fish from the River Lowman, at Tiverton, Devon. The move, by the National Rivers Authority, is one of a number of measures undertaken after detailed investigations by pollution officers. They believe the PCBs got into the water at least a year ago. It is unlikely that the original source will be traced. Efforts have been concentrated on stopping the remaining PCBs moving down river.

Dog survives

A Labrador was found alive after spending five days in a car which was found abandoned after being stolen near Beccles, Suffolk.

Car bait

Police in Nottinghamshire are to borrow high-performance cars from dealers to use as bait to catch car thieves after a big rise in thefts. They will be kept under watch in the worst hit car parks.

Cell death

Linda Tandy, aged 35 of Wakefield, who was serving a life sentence for killing her 12-year-old daughter has been found dead in her cell at Durham prison.

Ferrets tracked

Ferrets used to hunt rabbits at the Queen's Sandringham estate have been equipped with radio transmitters so their position can be tracked.

Police pay out

Thames Valley police are understood to have paid compensation totalling several thousand pounds to Hells Angels in Reading, Berkshire, after 38 claims following raids five years ago. Details of the sums will be released in a report on Friday.

Acid attack

Animal Liberation Front militants said they carried out a £20,000 acid attack on cars at a garage in Lewes, East Sussex, because the showroom took a £40 advertisement in a hunting handbook.

£500,000 award

Mr Carl Gooch, aged 27, of North Ferriby, Humberside, was crippled in an abseiling accident during a merchant seamen's training course run by Lancashire County Council has received more than £500,000 in an out of court settlement.

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METRES UNTIL THEY MEET.*



A BREAKTHROUGH FOR BRITAIN.

*Metres to be bored in the service tunnel (one of three tunnels under construction) as at 03.6.90. The system is expected to be operational in 1993.

السؤال الأول

Britain warns of retaliation on Europe beef bans

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN might have to consider retaliation in kind against the French and West German bans on imports of British beef if they are not lifted at today's emergency meeting of European Community agriculture ministers in Brussels, officials said yesterday.

Mr David Maclean, the Food Minister, said Mr John Gummer, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food, would "read the riot act" at the meeting and would not "accept compromise just to save the face of other countries when they are wrong". He said: "We want the total removal of the ban immediately but if the French and Germans hold out I fear that the Commission may not want to offend them."

He added that the French were acting "unacceptably and unlawfully" over the ban. "As a political manoeuvre it was not unexpected. The French have been using the same animal feed as British farmers, a practice which we have now stopped. We have just as much grounds in that respect to ban their products," he said.

France, by far the biggest foreign market for British beef, imposed a ban last week ostensibly because of fears about the "mad cow" disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). That prompted West Germany to follow suit because of concern that beef no longer able to enter France would be diverted to its market.

A commission spokesman said the next step, if the bans are not lifted today, would be to send letters to France and West Germany asking them to justify their actions and giving them several weeks to reply. After that, Brussels would send them a "reasoned opinion" explaining why they were being taken to court and allowing still further time for replies.

Mr Raymond MacSharry, the European Commissioner for Agriculture, is understood to have ruled out the option of speeding up the process by means of an injunction that would require the bans to be lifted pending a court ruling on their legality.

A separate meeting in Brussels today of the EC's scientific veterinary committee will be

crucial for Mr Gummer. Last January the committee decided that a ban on the import from Britain of live cattle over six months old and the removal of certain offals from British beef were sufficient, in addition to the measures taken within Britain, to curb the spread of BSE.

Any hint that the committee was having second thoughts might be enough to stiffen the resolve of the French and West Germans to maintain their bans and to deter the Commission from pursuing legal action against them.

The National Farmers' Union announced yesterday that it had sponsored an amendment to the Food Safety Bill, due to be debated in the Commons tomorrow, calling for the labelling of ingredients used in animal feed to be made compulsory this year to restore public confidence in livestock products.

French beef producers told their government yesterday they wanted the ban on imports of British beef extended to Ireland, which has had 19 cases of BSE compared with Britain's 14,000.



Kevin Reid, aged nine, listens intently to an answer from Mr Simon Hughes MP at a "question time" for school children at the House of Commons yesterday

Solicitors liaise with the French on second homes

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE boom in buying holiday homes in France led yesterday to the setting up of a joint group of several hundred firms of solicitors and French notaires.

The new Franco-British Club for Solicitors and Notaires from the Calais region, formally set up at the Law Society, will create the first liaison between English and French lawyers with an eye to 1992.

It will serve both for the introduction of clients and exchange of information in what has become a new field of work for solicitors because of the growing numbers of buyers of second homes in France.

The Solicitors' Property Group said: "These purchasers need to be advised about the difference between French and British inheritance and tax laws." While lawyers in either country are experts in their own respective fields, there was a "dangerous gap" between into which the unwary purchaser of an overseas property may fall.

"Does he or she realize, for example, that in France you are not free to leave property by will to whomever you choose, that the rate of inheritance tax payable can vary depending on the relationship

of the beneficiary to the deceased?" The new association would act as a "bridge-head" to the other side of the Channel. "It will enable our members to offer, with the assistance of their overseas colleagues, a comprehensive legal service for those clients who choose to live, work or travel in another EEC country."

In France notaires are concerned not only with the legal transfer procedure, but also, particularly in the north and the west, they negotiate the sale of their clients' properties, much in the same way as members of the Solicitors' Property Group.

One spin-off from the new association will be that properties which are being offered for sale by French notaires will be marked through the 110 offices of the Solicitors' Property Group. It is proposed that the agreement signed yesterday between the group and the Regional Council of Notaires for the Pas de Calais will prompt similar arrangements with other regional councils in other departments of France.

Proposals to change the law to allow homosexual adults to marry are put forward in an article in this month's Family Law.

Makers ask to test blow-out tyre on coach

By CRAIG SETON

THE tyre believed to have blown out on a British holiday coach in France, leading to a crash which killed 11 people, was manufactured 13 months ago and would have had to have been " regrooved" after 50,000 to 60,000 miles to ensure it remained safe, a tyre company said yesterday.

Avon Tyres of Melksham, Wiltshire, said that the front offside tyre that was suspected of bursting on the double-decker coach was one it manufactured in April last year. The firm said it appeared that the tyre had not been regrooved and was still in its "first life" stage.

A spokesman for the company said that it had no information about the date the £300 Avon Steelmaster Regroovable was sold or when it was fitted to the coach. Nor did the company know the crucial detail about the number of miles it had covered.

The coach, owned by Montego European Travel, of Leek, Staffordshire, was carrying 73 passengers home to England when it crashed off the A6 motorway near Joigny, 80 miles from Paris, on Sunday. Apart from the dead, 61

people were injured, nine seriously.

Some holidaymakers were reported to have claimed that the vehicle had had tyre trouble and that after an earlier blow-out another tyre had been fitted at the front. The accident is being investigated by the French authorities and by inspectors of the Department of Transport, who have flown to France to conduct their own inquiry.

Mr John Johnston, the driver, who was seriously injured, has denied claims that he was exceeding the 55mph speed limit.

Avon Tyres said yesterday that it urgently wanted to examine the tyre reported to have burst. It had been in contact with the Department of Transport to offer its assistance in the inquiry.

The spokesman said the tyre was capable of being driven at speeds of up to 81mph. It was manufactured to be driven for 50,000 to 60,000 miles on its original 4mm-deep tread and this could then be " regrooved" to a depth of 4mm to give it a second life. Under certain circumstances it could then be regrooved for a "third life".

The spokesman added: "I would have thought it was still in its first life. It was a comparatively new tyre, but we do not know its history. It would normally operate for 50,000 to 60,000 miles although I have read reports that some of these touring holiday companies do over 100,000 miles a year."

"We would not expect it to run for more than 50,000 to 60,000 miles without being regrooved, but we do not know what mileage it had done," he said.

"Regrooving is quite standard for all commercial tyre manufacturers. It is built into the tyre for that to be done. Remoulding has to be done by a company belonging to the British Remould Tyre Association, and before remoulding for a third life it has to be ensured that the side walls are in an adequate condition."

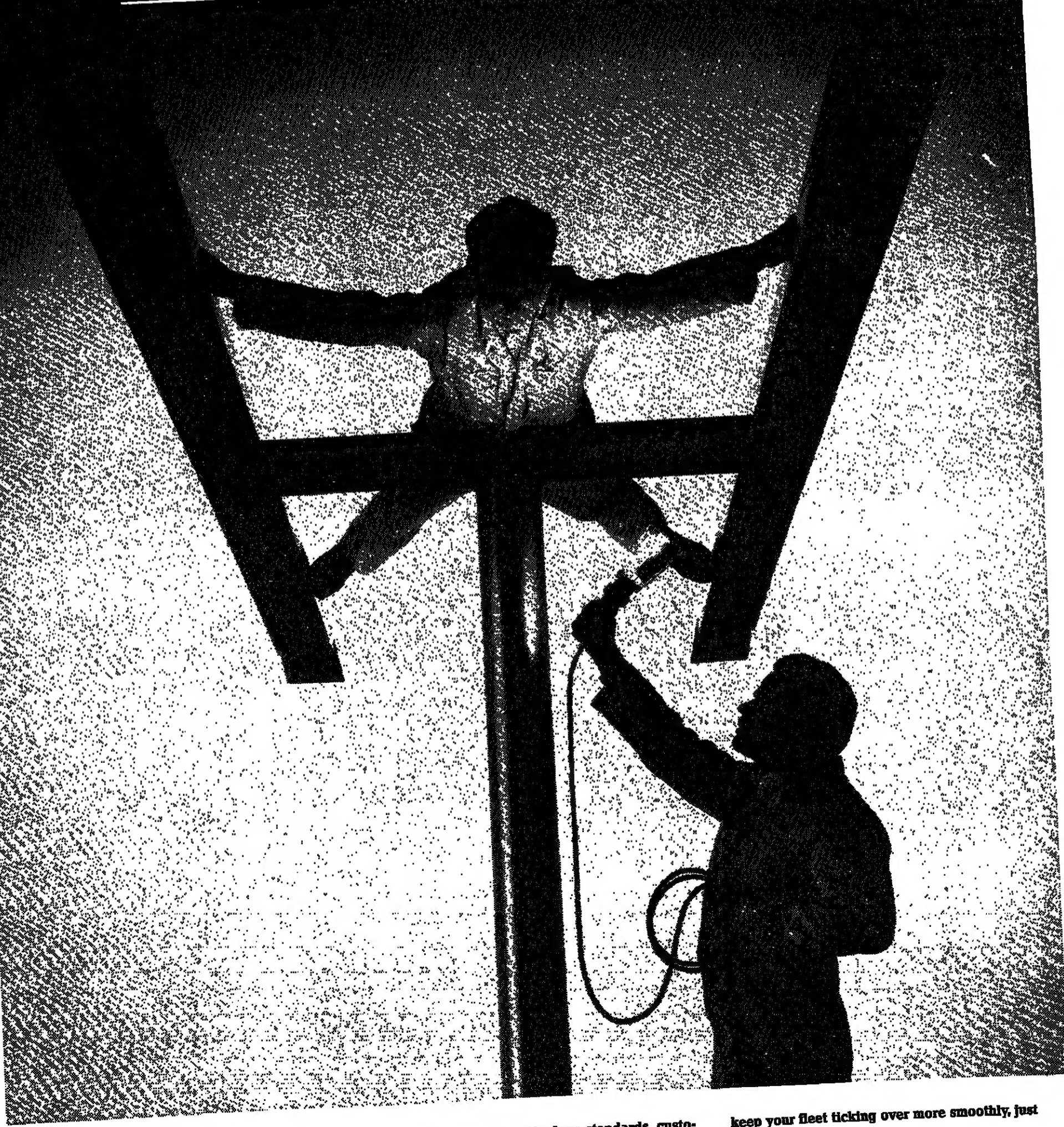
The spokesman said a blow-out could be caused by a number of factors, including debris on the road, overheating due to under-inflation, problems with the bearings and drive shaft or by brake binding. He said: "We are most anxious to get hold of that tyre to carry out full tests."

Mr Ken Garside, a director of Montego European Travel, which got its licence to operate only in April, refused yesterday to comment on the tyres. He said: "We offer our condolences to all concerned, but we do not think it is appropriate to comment further until the investigation has been completed."

However, Mr John Cox, managing director of C & C Diesel, of Leek, the company which carried out a maintenance check on the coach before it left for France last Thursday, said yesterday: "Apart from checking the tyre tread and pressures, the tyres are the responsibility of the operator because tyres are a specialist thing."

"We carried out a routine maintenance check and no defects were reported. Our mechanics would have made it known if there had been a defect," Mr Cox said.

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LEX SERVICE

Youth in Blakelock case 'put through sheer hell'

By QUENTIN CONWAY HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A YOUTH whose misadventure by police investigation led to a senior politician being charged with a crime, the youth's father said yesterday, "put him through sheer hell" while being questioned by detectives.

Mr Jason Hill, aged 15, was charged with the murder of a 16-year-old girl, Sarah Jones, in 1988. He was charged with the murder of a 16-year-old girl, Sarah Jones, in 1988. He was charged with the murder of a 16-year-old girl, Sarah Jones, in 1988.

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Minister defends 'prompt' warning on toxic shellfish

THE Department of Health had acted promptly in the interests of public health in issuing a warning about the high levels of toxins found in shellfish off the north-east coast, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State, told the Commons when he dismissed allegations of delay and confusion over the incident.

He also rejected suggestions that fishermen should receive compensation and said that as soon as monitoring showed that toxin levels were safe the warning would be lifted.

"On May 26, my department issued a public warning that routine monitoring of the north-east coast of England by ministry scientists had found high levels of a toxin in shellfish. The toxin is concentrated by shellfish from a particular kind of

naturally occurring algae which occurs at this time of year.

"My department advised that consumption of all locally caught shellfish, including crustaceans such as crabs, lobsters, shrimps and prawns, could cause illness and should not be eaten while toxin levels remained high. The warning applied to shellfish taken from the coast between the Humber and Mounts.

"The occurrence of toxins at the levels found recently in shellfish from the north-east has, in the past, caused serious illness. Further extensive testing of multiseason shellfish, for example mussels, has indicated that the levels of toxin are such that the public must, for the time being, refrain from consuming them.

"However, with the exception of

PUBLIC HEALTH

crabs, the safety of all crustaceans, such as lobsters, prawns and shrimps caught off the north-east coast, has now been firmly established. The testing of crabs has revealed small amounts of toxin in the edible meat and more tests are being made to obtain sufficient reassurance to enable the warning on crabs to be lifted.

"The Department of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Scottish Office have worked closely in addressing this problem and clear advice has been given to, and acted upon, by the public.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-

Tweed, Lib Dem), who raised the issue, asked what tests had been made on crabs, lobsters and prawns before the warning had been issued. That had greatly widened the warning and done great harm to the fragile livelihood of east coast fishermen. Because the warning had been misleading and had caused serious damage to fishermen, they should be compensated.

Mr Clarke said he realized that the livelihood of many fishermen had been affected, but, in 1968, a total of 78 people had been affected as a result of eating shellfish containing toxin and the levels had been as high this year. It had been wise to be prudent in the interests of public health.

The toxin was produced by the

blooming of a particular algae and outbreaks had occurred as far back as 1814. It was a naturally occurring hazard known to local fishermen who collected the shellfish rather than rearing them. Farmers were not compensated for natural disasters.

Mr John Thompson (Wansbeck, Lab) said that the problem was aggravated by pollution problems in the North Sea. Pressure should be put on the privatized water companies to lower pollution levels.

Mr Clarke said that there was no scientific or medical evidence to support the assertion that the toxin was related to pollution.

Mr Elliot Morely, Opposition spokesman on food, said that there had been a three-day delay between the issue of the warning and clarification

from the department because no one had been available over the holiday to answer questions.

Mr Clarke denied there had been any delay. He and other ministers had all been available. There was an effective system for protecting public health and it had been put into operation promptly.

Mr Richard Holt (Langbaurgh, C) said that in the case of the coach crash everyone was being clever after the event. In the case of the shellfish warning the Government was being accused of being clever before the event.

Mr Clarke said that a serious paralytic disease resulted from the toxin. If people had been affected the Government would have been criticized, and rightly.

Poll tax 'costly chaos' denied

PRIME MINISTER

ADMINISTERING the community charge involved huge costs and there was chaos in its collection in many areas, Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said during question time.

He said that Mrs Margaret Thatcher had spoken for the whole country recently when she said that the poll tax had been a huge mistake.

Mrs Thatcher: He is mistaken. I never said any such thing (laughter). I am very sorry to disappoint him, but he would not believe all he reads in the newspapers.

Mr Kinnock said that he was said that reports that some common sense had broken out in Downing Street appeared to be slightly exaggerated.

"The costs of administering poll tax are huge. In many areas there is chaos in collection of poll tax and poll tax capping will inflict crippling losses, especially on children's education. While all that is true, the only thing wrong with her saying that poll tax is a huge mistake is that it is a gross understatement.

Mrs Thatcher: He never conditions his supplementary question to my previous reply (laughter).

The Government had accelerated the taxpayers' contribution, through rate support grant, to local authorities, giving them a cash advantage that would tide them over difficulties.

Mr Kinnock: Perhaps she will condition herself to this: The reality all over the country is that people under Conservative and Labour councils are saying that this poll tax is costing so much more than the rates ever did. Where is the sense, the prudence and the fairness in that? The tax was doomed, as it deserved to be, along with the Government.

Mrs Thatcher: I understand that he feels strongly about community charge, as he lives in Ealing, because there is a Labour council and a very high charge.

They had looked at the Labour policy document, since Mr Peter Mandelson, the Director of Communications for the Labour Party, had said that it would contain the party's fully worked-out alternative to the charge, but they found that the practical means of achieving the principles in the document would be in a background paper. There was no paper, and the Labour Party had no clue.

● A Labour MP expressed the hope during question time that the Prime Minister would enjoy a pleasant night's sleep in the warm. Mr John P. Smith (Vale of Glamorgan, Lab) asked what she would do for his constituents who, in national housing week, did not have a roof over their heads.

In reply, Mrs Thatcher gave figures for the number of homeless people in London and said that the Government had allocated another £250 million to be spent over the next two years on nearly 5,000 extra lettings and new housing association houses.

Government wants speed limiters for coaches soon

MINISTERS

are seeking to hasten the fitting of speed limiters to coaches, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, told MPs yesterday when he made a statement on Sunday's coach crash in France.

He would be having urgent talks with operators about the limiters that could be fitted, but he rejected a suggestion that Britain should act unilaterally on the fitting of seat belts. Their use would not be enforceable, he said.

Mr Parkinson said that two of his department's senior vehicle investigation experts had flown out to assist the French authorities. He expected a full report on the vehicle from them next week.

They had told him that the right-hand front tyre had failed. It was not a remount, it was in good condition, was the correct size for the vehicle and it had no sign of under-inflation. The vehicle had been fitted with a tachograph, which was now with the French police.

"It is my intention to ensure that all the circumstances are fully investigated and the facts made available. I expect to get a full report about the vehicle next week and we have agreed with the French authorities that we will exchange reports."

The Government attached the highest importance to coach safety and driver training. Before going on the road each coach was tested and certificated. It was required to undergo an annual roadworthiness inspection. The coach concerned, he said, had been checked in accordance with all the British requirements.

"Britain has been playing a leading role in Europe in developing high standards of coach safety. In particular, we have been pressing for the provision of seat belts in coaches and we shall, in the light of this accident, be renewing our pressure to remove the obstacles to their standard fitment in all our coaches."

He would be having urgent discussions with the bus and Coach Council and others about the lessons that could be learnt from the accident and to maintain and secure the safest possible coach travel. He would seek to accelerate the fitting of speed limiters.

Mr Peter Snape, an Opposition spokesman on transport, asked why he had not insisted on the unilateral implementation of seat belt legislation for coaches.

Would he comment on a story in the *Daily Mail* that the company involved had been operating illegally for some months.

Labour believed that this tragedy was a direct result of coach deregulation (loud Conservative protests) — which has led to a proliferation of backstreet operators with neither the time, money nor

FRENCH CRASH

resources adequately to maintain their coaches."

Mr Parkinson said that seat belts were within the competence of the European Community. "We have been leading the way to get them fitted in all our coaches. We only have the support of the Danes and the slightly half-hearted support of the Germans. The rest of the Community are opposed."

"As recently as last Thursday, we were pressing the Commission to come forward with a directive.

"We could take unilateral action, but we could not enforce that action. It would be illegal. Therefore it would be a pointless gesture of the kind we do not intend to waste time on."

The claim of illegal operation was made by a rival organization. It was being investigated. But it was beyond doubt that the coach was properly licensed and was being properly operated.

On deregulation, Mr Snape's prejudice was overriding his knowledge. The particular coaches had not been regulated for nearly 16 years.

"So for him to claim that the recent deregulation of bus services has affected this is nonsense."

Mr Ronald Fearn, Liberal Democrat spokesman on transport, said he hoped that proposals for a licence for life for coach operators would be stopped and that they would continue to be renewed every five years.

Mr Parkinson said that there was a misleading and worrying headline in a newspaper today suggesting that the driver had had his job for only 10 days.

That might have been so, but he had held his licence to drive these vehicles for more than two years. The licence still had three years to run.

Britain was the only European country that insisted on a tilt test for these vehicles.

Mr Bruce Grocott (The Wrekin, Lab) said that an independent Ministry of Transport inquiry was needed into speed limits, safety belts and tyre safety standards.

Mr Parkinson said during later questions that he would look again at whether the 70mph limit for coaches was satisfactory.

Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent South, Lab) said it was common knowledge that there were many cowboy firms operating. The minister should try to outlaw them. There was also a new form of motorway madness, with drivers using the inside lane and then moving into the outside lane at 100 miles an hour.

Mr Parkinson said that enforcement of the law was a matter for the police. He would bring that matter to their attention. On cowboy firms, spot checks had been increased to try to catch out those not playing by the rules.



Mr Watts: "Ban the appalling Golden Delicious"

MP wants 'apples for beef' boycott

FRENCH and other European governments' actions in banning the import of British beef was roundly condemned by the Prime Minister in the Commons. The actions, she said at question time, had more to do with protecting continental farmers than with scientific evidence about British beef.

Mr John Watts (Slough, C) called on British consumers to use their purchasing power to boycott French goods, "including the appalling Golden Delicious apples."

Mrs Thatcher said that she understood his strong feelings. The European Commission had been extremely good and the Government was glad of the action it had taken.

"It is quite illegal to ban imports from this country to Germany and France and the Commission is taking action. The special veterinary committee of the European Community has agreed that Britain has taken all action possible", she added, "and that British beef is safe."

Mr Alan Ames (Hexham, C) said that there was no scientific or medical evidence against British beef. The ban was a disgrace.

● In the Lords, Lady Trumpington, Minister of State for Agriculture, ruled out retaliatory action to ban French and other foodstuffs.

She told a Conservative peer who urged the ban that the Government had great sympathy with the difficulty of beef farmers and had asked the EC Commission to recognize the weak market and to open intervention for unlimited amounts of beef, to provide a safety net.

She did not agree with retaliation. "We play by the rules. We are using the proper European procedures. Two wrongs don't make a right and, importantly, the Commission is on our side."

Labour warns the opt-out hospitals

HOSPITALS that opted out of the National Health Service without giving local people any say in the matter would be taken back into NHS control by a Labour government, Mr Ken Cook, chief Opposition spokesman on health, said during question time in the Commons.

Earlier, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, had dismissed a suggestion that local ballots should be held in hospitals considering opting out. No government had ever thought it sensible for the management of health services to be subject to ballots. He preferred the usual process of consultation.

A total of 195 units had so far expressed an interest in National Health Service trust

status, with about eighty indicating that they might seek trust status next year. That demonstrated the keen interest with which senior health service staff, including members of the medical and nursing profession, viewed such trusts.

Mrs Margaret Ewing (Moray, SNP) said that all staff and patients, including potential patients, should be consulted.

Mr Clarke said that staff were a key part of the service. There would be full consultations and applications would be referred to the relevant health authority. He would lead to a better quality of service for patients and better value for money.

Mr Nicholas Winterout (Macclesfield, C) said that the drive for health service self-

governing status came from the Department of Health through the chairmen of the regions and the districts, all of whom were party political appointments.

"Will he say genuinely to the House if it is the view of local people, particularly of consultants, doctors, nurses and paramedics working within the hospital, that they do not wish to go for self-governing status, he will refuse that application?"

Mr Clarke said that he denied strongly the allegation that chairmen were party political appointments. It was absurd that proposals to return to a system like the old hospital management boards, which gave more local control at the sharp end of delivery, should be opposed.

He said that the drive for health service self-



Lord Jenkins of Roding

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE House of Lords has inflicted 152 defeats on government legislation during the 11 years of Thatcher administration, but never until yesterday has it killed a government Bill at second reading.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has freely added to her party's numbers in the upper House so that now about 435 peers take the Tory whip compared with about 115 on the Labour benches. She has also demanded hard work of the Lords, with the average day's sitting now more than seven hours.

Despite a tendency to rebel, the Tories usually retreat on the big political issues, such as banking the poll tax, rather than provoke a conflict with the elected chamber. The free vote given to peers on the War Crimes Bill removed the normal reticence.

An analysis of the voting is shown in the table below:

	Against	For
Con	112	39
Lab	17	18
Ld Dem	20	4
SDP	4	2
Ind	54	11
	207	74

The loss of most backbench Conservative peers, coupled with the opposition to the Bill from the Independent cross-benches which normally vote four to one in the Government's favour, was responsible for the

defeat because Labour peers split almost evenly.

In addition, only eight of the Government's "payroll" vote of 22 whips and ministers in the Lords supported the Bill. The remaining 14 either abstained or were absent. The names of the rebels in the roll call of the party's former leading figures, including Lord Barber, Boyd-Carpenter, Carrington, Crickhowell, Halsbury of St Marylebone, Havers, Jenkins of Roding, Johnson of Rockport, Pym, Rees, Thomas of Swynerton, and Windlesham.

The combined powers of the 1911 and 1949 Parliament Acts have never been adopted by MPs to exercise their supremacy over the unelected chamber. But they would enable the Com-

mons to pass an exact copy of the Bill and send it for Royal Assent next spring if the Lords again refused to give it a second reading. Senior peers do not believe the Lords would provoke such a constitutional dilemma.

A more likely scenario is for peers to try to amend the legislation during committee and report stages over the summer months next year. Unless a deal was done over agreed changes, the Commons could at the end of the session send it for Royal Assent without the peers' agreement.

The heaviest Lords defeat inflicted previously on a Thatcher administration was the vote to tear the heart out of the Local Government (Interim Provisions) Bill in June 1984. The peers voted by 191 to 143 against the Government's plan to suspend elections to the Greater London Council and six metropolitan county councils before their abolition.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, then Secretary of State for Environment, who watched in dismay as the peers not only destroyed his Bill but also contributed to the demise of his political career, was, as Lord Jenkins of Roding, one of yesterday's rebels.

Certain issues, such as help and housing for the disabled, regularly put the peers in conflict with the Commons and ministers often give in as long as the concession is not expensive. If a Lords defeat carries with it a high price, the Commons can invoke its financial privilege and overrule the peers.

Since the departure of Lord

Library fully in use in 1996

The British Library will start moving books into the basement bookstacks at its new premises near St Pancras Station, north London, by the middle of next year, Mr Richard Lacey, Minister for the Arts, said in a Commons written reply.

He added that the first reading room would open in early 1993 and the first phase of the building would be operational by the middle of the year. The completed building would be fully operational by mid-1996.

A model and artist's impression of the completed building will be included in this year's Royal Academy summer exhibition, and there will be an exhibition in the portico of the building on the St Pancras site for the next few months.

£110m saved on laundry

The initiative started in 1983 to encourage health authorities to place contracts through competitive tendering of laundry, domestic and catering services had resulted in cumulative savings of £110 million up to the end of 1988-89, with an additional £6 million savings expected in 1989-90, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Under Secretary of State for Health, said in a written Commons reply.

Passports

The Government estimates that there are between half a million and a million people living in South Africa eligible to hold British passports, Mr Tim Selway, Under Secretary of State, Foreign Office, said in a Commons written reply. Most had the right to live in the United Kingdom.

Extradition

The Government hopes to make the necessary order in council to ratify the European Convention on Extradition before the summer recess, Mr David Wedderburn, Home Secretary, said in a written reply.

Traffic study

The Department of Transport is planning to conduct a survey of travel in Greater London next year in collaboration with the London Research Centre, British Rail and London Transport, Mr Robert Adkins, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said in a written Commons reply.

MP arrives



Mr Michael Carr (above), who won the Bootle by-election for Labour last month, was introduced in the Commons.

New peer

Lord Varley, the former Labour Cabinet minister and MP for Chesterfield, was introduced in the Lords.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Scotland. Debate on an Opposition motion on the welfare of children. Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions) Order. Lords (2.30): Debate on European political and monetary union.

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WHEN THE TIME COMES
THE TIMES

السلامة العامة

Sihanouk's ceasefire plan isolates Khmer Rouge

From JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

IN A development that seems as likely to escalate the fighting in Cambodia as to nudge the country towards peace, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the Cambodian resistance leader, and Mr Hun Sen, the Prime Minister of the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh regime, last night signed a communiqué calling for a voluntary ceasefire.

They also called for the reconvening of the Paris-based international conference on Cambodia.

But the Khmer Rouge, the military backbone of Prince Sihanouk's uneasy three-party coalition, boycotted the talks, leading observers to speculate that the fighting in Cambodia between Mr Hun Sen's government forces and guerrillas of Mr Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge leader, could worsen in the coming months.

"I am not responsible for what the Khmer Rouge are going to do," Prince Sihanouk told a news conference here last night. Since he has been saying that any ceasefire pact that excludes the Khmer Rouge is an empty gesture, the Khmer Rouge's exclusion from last night's accord would seem to undermine the communiqué's potential impact. The Prince acknowledged as much when he described the face-saving outcome as "a success, certainly, but like a half-moon, it's half a success".

Mr Khieu Samphan, who stayed in his hotel room throughout the two-day Tokyo meeting after being refused an equal voice at the negotiating table with Prince Sihanouk and Mr Hun Sen, said in a statement last night that he would not observe any

ceasefire. "We cannot be held responsible for the implementation of any agreement which we have not signed."

Prince Sihanouk admitted that without anybody policing the accord, the voluntary ceasefire was rather academic. "There is no body to monitor the ceasefire and to prevent the warring factions and the Vietnamese from fighting each other. So I can predict that for a few months at least there will be fighting."

"I have given orders to the royalists to stop fighting and the Republican Party of Mr Son Sann will also stop fighting. The Khmer Rouge is not obliged to accept the communiqué which has just been signed by non-Khmer Rouge men," he stated.

But observers of the Cambodian conflict warned against reading the Prince's comments as a break with the Khmer Rouge. They said Prince Sihanouk had in the past looked like leaving the Khmer Rouge isolated only to embrace them back into the anti-Vietnamese fold later.

The problem facing the peace-brokers and the combatants is that if Mr Khieu Samphan could eventually be persuaded to play a role in the United Nations-proposed Supreme National Council that will govern Cambodia, Mr Hun Sen, who says there is no role for the Khmer Rouge in the future government of Cambodia, may then withdraw his support.

It was behind-the-scenes pressure from Mr Hun Sen that forced the Japanese hosts to isolate the Khmer Rouge by holding two-way talks rather than allowing all four parties to sign the pact.

The communiqué calls for the voluntary ceasefire to take effect on the first day of the formation of a Supreme National Council, while internationally-supervised elections are held. The signatories to the Tokyo communiqué said this council should be formed by the end of July. But its composition is a prickly issue in the peace process. Without representatives of the Khmer Rouge, the council, too, could prove a hollow chamber.

Prince Sihanouk told reporters last night that he had already agreed to a proposal from Mr Hun Sen to have three of his own followers, three from Mr Son Sann's faction and six nominated by Mr Hun Sen. "There will be no Khmer Rouge," said the Prince. "They do not want to take part."

Enrile coup charge 'is invalid'

Manila — The Philippines Supreme Court has ruled invalid the twin charge of rebellion and murder against the opposition leader, Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, and 20 others, the Chief Justice announced yesterday.

Chief Justice Marcelo Fernan said the 15-member court believed those linked to a failed coup in December, 1989, should be charged only with rebellion, which is punishable by a maximum of 12 years' imprisonment, and that by attaching an additional charge of murder, a capital offence, the indictment had been rendered invalid. (Reuters)

Swiss safe

Geneva — Miss Brigitte Kehr and Mr Thierry Tribolet, two Swiss Red Cross workers reported missing in Mozambique since last Friday, are safe, the agency said. (Reuters)

King recovering

Oslo — King Olav of Norway, aged 86, the world's oldest reigning monarch, has recovered slightly from pneumonia and a stroke which paralysed his left side. (Reuters)

Jordan trials

Amman — Jordan is to put on trial 15 people charged with attacking police and looting during pro-Palestinian protests last month. (Reuters)

Mrs Lange dead

Wellington — Mrs Phoebe Lange, aged 81, the outspoken mother of the former New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, has died in Auckland. (AP)

Cubans rescued

Miami — Eight men who fled Cuba on inner tubes, a small boat and a makeshift raft, have been rescued from the Atlantic in good condition and handed over to the US Immigration and Naturalization Service. (AP)

Angola battle

Luanda — Angola has said that its forces have killed 98 UNITA rebels in a battle last Friday in the southern province Cuando Cubango. (Reuters)

Fishing row

Kaohsiung, Taiwan — Squid fishermen from Taiwan, Japan and South Korea will continue fishing with driftnets despite international condemnation, the North Pacific Driftnet Squid Fishery Conference announced. (Reuters)

Bus tragedy

Dhaka — At least 25 people were killed and 20 injured as a bus carrying pilgrims from a Muslim shrine overshot a bridge and plunged into a canal 35 miles east of Dhaka.



Between the ranks: A young girl watching troops marching across Tiananmen Square yesterday amid the continuing security crackdown

China trumpets a paper victory

From OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN PEKING

CHINA'S leaders were able to proclaim a victory of a kind yesterday after Peking and the other big cities weathered the first anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre.

The reports also claimed the universities were "in good order and quiet as usual", but then conceded that "several dozen students, including many foreign ones", had been involved in a rowdy fashion, attracting a crowd of on-lookers. All Chinese citizens, the press said, were now turning their thoughts to the Asian Games. The event, to be held in Peking in September, is being greeted with a vast propaganda build-up.

For anyone who experienced the extraordinary security clampdown in Peking over the weekend, the protests on Sunday and Monday nights in a number of university campuses in the capital and other cities were remarkable for their reckless defiance of an authority which, for the past week, has treated its citizens as potential criminals.

Thousands of police had laid siege to the city centre and the university campuses, checking identity at roadblocks and detaining anyone who approached foreigners. All citizens were advised by the work units, the basic organizations to which all must belong, to stay home and go to bed early.

Students reported yesterday that the Public Security Bureau, the security police, had begun calling in those identified as ringleaders of the late night protests. Though limited in extent, the demonstrations nevertheless appeared to have restored morale.

While the rest of the city let the night pass without public display, the students had not remained silent. "We're controlled, but we haven't given in," said a Peking University undergraduate who took part in the night of smashing bottles — a favourite symbolic act because "xiao ping" means "little bottle", and evokes the image of smashing the regime of Mr Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader.

"Last night was a fantastic victory. I think something may happen again. People are angry and this anger has to be expressed somehow."

According to accounts that emerged from the closed university grounds yesterday, the students taunted the plainclothes men of the Public Security Bureau by repeating the refrain from "Every Breath You Take", the hit song by the rock band Police. The line goes: "I'll be watching you." They also sang the "Internationale" and a few chanted: "Down with (Premier) Li Peng."

Only one student in Peking addressed the crowd on Monday, Mr Li Ming, aged 21, a business management student, called for an end to corruption, for land to be given to farmers and factories to the workers, and for the leadership to respect intellectuals. When security men tried to move in on Mr Li, students blocked them, although he was eventually led away. Students then hurled bottles and bricks at security troops.

Further, he claimed that "during last year's turmoil some foreign correspondents got deeply involved in China's domestic politics and now again are collaborating with these people who still want to do these kinds of things".

In anticipation of the protest letter, Jim Munson, the president of the correspondents' club, was called to the Foreign Ministry for an urgent meeting with a Chinese government spokesman. Mr Liu Rucui accused "a small number" of foreign journalists of violating the regulations of the Peking city government by going to university campuses without making formal applications.

Further, he claimed that "during last year's turmoil some foreign correspondents got deeply involved in China's domestic politics and now again are collaborating with these people who still want to do these kinds of things".

The guerrillas, driven from power by the Vietnamese invasion of late 1978, are still capable of acts of prodigious military prowess. Recently Ta Mok, the one-legged Khmer Rouge military tactician who is third in the leadership and whose ruthless cruelty earned him the sobriquet of "The Butcher" among Cambodians, travelled deep into Cambodia in mid-May and is now leading troops in the central province of Kompong Thom.

And Pol Pot, the shadowy Khmer Rouge leader, aged 65, whose name became a byword for horror, is still the dominant military and political commander of the Khmer Rouge, based near Borei in the south-eastern Thai province of Trat, though his only official job is that of "researcher" in the Higher Institute for National Defence. There are unconfirmed reports from Cambodian and

ing quarters there are pin-ups of Khmer girls in revolutionary poses but framed against sunflowers; the only hint of ideology is a chalked sign in French that reads "Poverty is not a vice".

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"Last night was a fantastic victory. I think something may happen again. People are angry and this anger has to be expressed somehow."

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Only one student in Peking addressed the crowd on Monday, Mr Li Ming, aged 21, a business management student, called for an end to corruption, for land to be given to farmers and factories to the workers, and for the leadership to respect intellectuals. When security men tried to move in on Mr Li, students blocked them, although he was eventually led away. Students then hurled bottles and bricks at security troops.

Further, he claimed that "during last year's turmoil some foreign correspondents got deeply involved in China's domestic politics and now again are collaborating with these people who still want to do these kinds of things".

In anticipation of the protest letter, Jim Munson, the president of the correspondents' club, was called to the Foreign Ministry for an urgent meeting with a Chinese government spokesman. Mr Liu Rucui accused "a small number" of foreign journalists of violating the regulations of the Peking city government by going to university campuses without making formal applications.

Further, he claimed that "during last year's turmoil some foreign correspondents got deeply involved in China's domestic politics and now again are collaborating with these people who still want to do these kinds of things".

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Soviet Union to establish full ties with South Korea

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN SAN FRANCISCO

THE Soviet Union and South Korea have agreed in principle to establish full diplomatic relations, after an 86-year gap, and to significantly expand economic, scientific and technological links.

This significant step forward was agreed at a historic meeting in San Francisco on Monday evening between President Gorbachev and President Roh Tae Woo of South Korea, which was the first time that leaders of the two nations had met.

Mr Roh said afterwards that he was confident the new accord between Seoul and Moscow would ultimately lead to the reunification of Korea, now "the only nation on earth that is still divided by Cold War politics". That in turn would promote "peace and prosperity throughout north-east Asia".

As a result of the two leaders' "epoch-making" meeting, "the Cold War ice on the Korean peninsula has now begun to crack", said Mr Roh. Korea was divided in 1948 into the communist North and pro-Western South. Around 42,000 US troops are still based in South Korea, facing a powerful, Soviet-backed North Korean army across the demilitarized zone that runs across the 38th Parallel.

The Soviet view of the meeting was more guarded perhaps, prompted by the recognition that Moscow's degree of influence over the Pyongyang regime has always been open to question in the competition with Peking and never more than now with the rapid changes in Moscow.

North Korea remains as one of the world's last hardline communist states. Mr Roh said that he had urged Mr Gorbachev to support South Korea's efforts to begin a dialogue with North Korea, and that Seoul was also planning to develop trade and relations with North Korea's other traditional ally, China.

The ultimate object was to force North Korea to open up. "The road between Seoul and Pyongyang is now totally blocked. Accordingly we have to choose an alternative route to the North Korean capital by way of Moscow and Peking."

"I am confident that since it is now played by internal and external difficulties, North

Korea will before long abandon its isolationist policy in favour of openness and reform," said Mr Roh.

Mr Gorbachev's decision reflects not only his desire to end cold war divisions, but also the Soviet need for foreign trade and investment.

South Korea has, through phenomenal growth, become a major economic power in the region, and is particularly strong in fields of technology which the Soviet Union needs for the development of natural resources in Siberia.

The first tentative sign of rapprochement with Moscow was Soviet participation in the Seoul Olympic Games in September, 1988. With a significant military presence in South Korea, the US has a keen interest in the future security of the Korean peninsula and is thought to have played a crucial role in bringing about Monday's meeting.

Mr Roh flew to Washington yesterday to brief President Bush on the results of his talks. He also hinted at possible visits by Mr Gorbachev and himself to each other's capitals.

● **KIEL:** Two ships from the Soviet Union's Baltic Fleet docked here yesterday, in the first visit by the Soviet Navy to West Germany.

The port call by the destroyer Bistry and frigate Neukrotay, which were greeted by a 21-gun salute, was aimed at improving relations between the Soviet and West German navies, said Rear Admiral Viktor Litvinov, commander of the 650-sailor detachment.

The West German Navy paid its first visit to the Soviet Union last October in Leningrad.

The environmental organization Greenpeace said that it had been assured by the Soviet naval attaché in Bonn, Mr Anatoly Solotarev, that the ships were not carrying nuclear weapons.

The ships are normally fitted with nuclear cruise missiles and torpedoes, Greenpeace said.

During the port call Soviet sailors will visit residents of Kielat their homes. There will also be public tours of the two ships, and a joint concert by members of the Soviet and West German sailors' choirs. (AP)



Fond farewell: Mr Gorbachev, with his wife Raisa, leaving San Francisco for home

European forum refuses observer seat for Vilnius

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

A REQUEST by Lithuania for observer status at the Copenhagen conference on "the human dimension" was rejected yesterday by Denmark, the host nation for the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe meeting on human rights being attended by delegates from 35 European nations, the US, Canada and the Soviet Union.

President Vytautas Landsbergis of Lithuania had formally sought observer status for Mr Virgilijus Cepaitis, a leading member of the Lithuanian parliament in Vilnius, who was informed during a meeting at the Danish Foreign Ministry that Denmark was not prepared to raise the issue before the conference plenum, on the ground that there was no consensus among CSCE foreign ministers on the issue.

"There would have to be consensus at the meeting that Lithuania was a separate European state before it could gain observer status. No such

consensus exists, so we are powerless to help the Lithuanians," a Danish Foreign Ministry official said.

Mr Cepaitis, who was first elected to the Lithuanian parliament in the country's free elections in February, was formerly general secretary of the Lithuanian Sąjūdis reform movement. Now, he is chairman of the Lithuanian parliamentary standing committee on citizens' rights and ethnic affairs.

"The Danish attitude is unrealistic," said Mr Cepaitis, who has been granted only guest status at the CSCE meeting, and is not allowed to attend conference sessions. "It seems odd that Albania, with its history of human rights violations, has been granted observer status at the CSCE meeting, whereas Lithuania with its democratically elected parliament is banned."

Undeterred by their exclusion from the main conference, Lithuania is participating in parallel events. It has been canvassing all delegations to air its three demands: *de facto* recognition as an independent state; a lifting of the Soviet economic blockade; and the placing of the whole Baltic question on the agenda of the forthcoming CSCE summit in Paris.

KGB defector lists contacts in EC and Nato

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BRUSSELS

AN OFFICIAL of the KGB who defected from Brussels to the United States has told Belgian investigators that he maintained links with an official in the European Commission—as well as a Western ambassador here, three Belgian journalists, a top civil servant in the Belgian Defence Ministry and a close associate of the Interior Minister.

His claim was partially substantiated yesterday by a European Commission spokesman, who said a Commission official had had contacts with the defector KGB officer, but refused to give details.

News of the defection, reported in a leading Belgian paper, came a day after the head of the Belgian State Security Service resigned after accusations by the Interior Minister and by a parliamentary committee that the service was of no use, and should be abolished.

The report, in *La Libre Belgique*, said a senior KGB official defected some weeks ago to the US Embassy here and was whisked away to the US. The Belgians were furious that the Americans did not tell the authorities here, or give them a chance to question the man, and demanded access to him in America.

The paper said the officer, whose name it did not name, had since been questioned by the Belgian Army in the US, and had revealed to them his contacts in Brussels, said to be the third most important KGB station after Washington and London.

The paper said the Russian's contact in the Commission was close to M Jacques Delors, the Commission president, and worked in the section negotiating relations between the EC and Eastern Europe.

This was denied by the Commission spokesman. But he would not say whether the contacts were authorized, or outside normal working relations between the EC and the Russians. The EC official, who volunteered the information of his contacts, is apparently still at his job.

The paper also said that the Western ambassador concerned was accredited either to the EC or Nato. Last week,

the Luxembourg Government partially cleared the name of Mr Guy de Muisser, its Ambassador to Nato, who resigned after being denied security clearance following the breaking of Nato security rules. Although he remains Luxembourg's Ambassador to Belgium, he has not been reinstated in Nato.

The report appears to be closely linked to the turmoil in the Belgian State Security Service. Mr Louis Tobback, the Interior Minister, recently called the agency useless, and said it had never given him any information of any importance. He called for its disbandment.

Mr Albert Raes, the head of the service since 1977, announced his resignation in a letter to the Justice Minister on Monday, saying that it was in the public interest, in view of the lack of confidence in the service. A parliamentary commission sharply criticized the service for its handling of investigations into a number of unsolved and apparently motiveless killings in the 1980s, many of them in supermarkets.

Yesterday, Mr Wilfried Martens, the Prime Minister, responded in Parliament to the Commission report. He announced the suspension of the State Security Service official responsible for countering terrorism, as well as broad-ranging reforms in the police and security services, with greater emphasis on proper civil control.

Mr Martens promised a full review of police responsibilities, centralization of records and forensic evidence, better co-ordination between local police forces and the setting up of a parliamentary commission for the police. The functions of the State Security Service will be defined by law.

The Prime Minister's statement comes at a time of mounting public alarm over the poor standards of policing in Belgium, and the suspension of the head of the Brussels detective squad after charges of fraud and corruption. Yesterday's news of the KGB defection, which the US Embassy would not comment upon, appears designed to justify the continuing need for the security service.

Alliance role for Army is rejected

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR East German official said in London yesterday that his country's National People's Army would never be part of the Nato military structure.

Herr Frank Maczinek, the Deputy Disarmament and Defence Minister, also gave a warning that it would be "unimaginable" for a reunified Germany to be in Nato if the Western alliance were the same military organization in 1991 as now.

Herr Maczinek, who had talks yesterday with Mr Archie Hamilton, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, and Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said that Nato must become a political

organization. His country intended to play an active part also in changing the Warsaw Pact into a political body. A package of proposals would be presented by East Germany to the Warsaw Pact summit tomorrow, he said.

He added: "We're also going to withdraw gradually, and I emphasize gradually, step-by-step, from the Warsaw treaty."

Herr Maczinek underlined the view of his Government that the Soviet Union would need four or five years to remove all its troops from East Germany, "because there are about one million people involved. That 380,000 troops and their families".

EAST BERLIN NOTEBOOK by Anne McElvoy

Volksarmee garb sets the trend

If anyone ever really doubted that money makes the world go round, let them take a stroll around Berlin in these heady days before the currency union arrives to transform the tottering Ostmark into the desirable Deutschmark. Despite being immune to most unusual sights by now, that a table of Volksarmee officers in full uniform still turns heads in the trendier bars of West Berlin.

These are not the real variety, who are more likely to be sobbing into their beer on the other side, but West Berliners, for whom East German militarabilia is now the latest fashion. At Checkpoint Charlie, disillusioned soldiers are selling off their uniforms before they go to ask the *Bundeswehr* for a job. A well-preserved officer's jacket, with epaulettes and pips intact, fetches DM300 (£100). Also in demand are the medals that the communists traditionally awarded themselves. The Star of People's Friendship in silver is the *de rigueur* embellishment to have dangling in your décolletage. One helpful dealer assures me that he could get one in gold at triple the price.

Even the certificate awarded to the People's Own Tinned Fruit Factory, for working voluntary hours, is now hanging on the wall of someone's flat, sold for a fiver. No one, however, has yet got hold of what used to be the highest East German honour, the Order of Marx. Examples of recipients who might be open to offer: the top spy, Herr Günter Guillaume, who is living on a greatly reduced Stasi pension; his employer, Herr Markus Wolf, desperately trying to re-establish

his democratic credentials; and the Big Daddy of them all, Herr Erich Mielke, the former Minister of State Security, now senile and in hiding.

According to his doctor son, he "understands the significance of very little these days".

Let them be accused of not looking after their own, the Party of Democratic Socialism, risen from the ashes of the old communist party, is busy selling off some rather nice properties to the former élite, who were given them as a reward for their sterling work. To the anger of less fortunate residents, however, their current inhabitants are being given first chance to buy at knockdown prices before the introduction of hard currency and a property market in July.

Herr Egon Krenz, the former leader, who belatedly insisted that he had never much liked living in the exclusive government compound of Wandlitz anyway, has retired to the pleasant suburb of Pankow, where he lives in apple-blossomed splendour next to Herr Willi Stoph, the former Prime Minister, and the son of Frau Hilde Benjamin, the infamous hanging judge of the Ulbricht years. Frau Lotte Ulbricht, the hardline former leader's widow, lives just down the road, which must make for some amiable trips down memory lane.

Herr Krenz modestly describes the five-bedroom villa he bought for DM250,000 as "nothing special", adding that the area is populated by "those who have done a service for our country". Hundreds of enraged Pankow residents, who marched on the house in protest at the beginning of the

week, disagree. They are even more disgruntled to discover that 17 houses are now inhabited by former Stasi officers for a mere DM130 a month.

Herr Jens Reich, the prominent pro-forum campaigner, whose New Forum movement last year could truly be described as having done a service for the country, lives, as before, in a modest flat around the corner and is disgruntled to find his local supermarket overrun by his former enemies. "Pankow is now the North Palermo of East Berlin," he says, "with the same old mafia just a smaller family."

Joint ventures are the latest buzz-words among the emerging business class of East Germany anxious to lure Western capital. But Herr Gregor Gysi, the lively reformist communist, is mischievously feeding the rumours of West German firms about to decimate their partners.

He is regaling crowds with the story of the hen who suggests a farmyard joint venture with a pig — Ham and Eggs Ltd. "What," says the dismayed pig, "you just have to lay the eggs and I get slaughtered?" "Yep," says the hen, "that's the way it is with joint ventures."

The bankers of West Germany, not renowned for their lack of ostentation. The Dresdner Bank, anxious to create a modest image, has instructed its representatives to leave the company Mercedes at home and go by Volkswagen. Tailored suits are also out — casuals are thought less overpowering when dealing with the country cousins of the former Russian zone.

WANTED



The Gobbledygook Monster is loose on the streets of Britain. If you see him, do not approach him.

Having broken free from Plain English Campaign's dungeons, he is trying to destroy all plain English communication—including British Gas's crystal clear booklet 'Commitment to Our Customers'.

Experts fear that the monster may travel the length and breadth of Britain, wreaking havoc from Manchester to Glasgow, Cardiff to London. He must be recaptured.

If you see any of the monster's work, send it to Plain English Campaign for the 1990 Golden Bull awards.

Will he continue to lurk in small print, official letters and lawyers' briefs? Or will British Gas come to the rescue?

Banishing Gobbledygook

British Gas and Plain English Campaign

سكرا من الوطن

Communists lie low and let others make mistakes in Prague

FROM RICHARD BASSETT

PRAGUE
OF PRAGUE'S many museums now echoing to the noise of a new generation of Western tourists, in the heart of the city, enjoys a tomb-like silence. The Klement Gottwald museum of communism, for nearly 40 years a shrine of Czechoslovak Stalinist ideology, is still open but its 20th wrought-iron gates must now be unlocked before anyone can buy a ticket.

Next month, the museum will be dismantled. But its contents (red flags, souvenirs of communist resistance to the Nazis) will not be destroyed. Six months after the revolution, the Czechs are still taking no chances. Each item will be labelled and filed away. The ephemera of "bourgeois capitalist exploitation" will

be somewhere preserved, a deputy curator diffidently explained, "just in case there is future demand". With characteristic Czechoslovak irony, the building, with its frescoed exterior, will become a bank. The palace, whose lavish staircases once resounded to communist oaths as Czechoslovak officers were sworn in, will now enjoy the music of computerized finance.

But if the Gottwald museum can be dismantled in a matter of weeks, Czechoslovakia's once all-powerful communist party is showing signs of remarkably avoided head-on conflict with the new rulers. Keeping a low profile, it has regrouped, reorganized, but above all, sat back and watched while the Civil Forum, the Christian Democrats and

new Socialist parties made mistakes.

In a televised debate on Monday night, representatives of all parties campaigning in the forthcoming elections mesmerized a television audience for hours debating the minutiae of economic reform. But while a Slovak Christian Democrat angered the Civil Forum technocrat by demanding that investment capital be Slovak rather than just Czech, the communist politician stayed silent, his lips betraying just the suspicion of a smile. It was an indication of how silence and discretion can be weapons for the soul of the Czech people.

The communists, though humiliated and weakened, remain remarkably powerful in an understated way. They are the only party with wealth and a hierarchy of followers with a vested

interest in preserving their privileges.

The failure to purge these people is one of only many errors Civil Forum has made over the past six months. Whichever way this *nomenklatura* votes, its loyalty ultimately lies with the party which created it.

The communists also clearly still control the police. The Interior Minister is a former communist. Rather than purge the security system thoroughly, Civil Forum has been happy to allow it to concentrate on traffic control. This tactical error has been a gift to the communists, who have not been slow in creating a sense of unease in Prague.

Saturday's bomb explosion in the Old Town Square, which injured a dozen people, only underlined the prevailing impression among many people, that,

for all its faults, Prague was a safer place under the communists than under the Civil Forum.

The gypsies who terrorized, with impunity, foreigners walking across Wenceslas Square, have been replaced by skinheads and punk rockers, who behave as they please while the police stand aside.

The communists are resigned to doing badly at the elections, but they take the long-term view that the real test for the fate of Czechoslovakia will be elections in two years. "These elections are not the beginning but the end of a period. What happens in two years will be more decisive," a senior communist party member said yesterday.

The communists hope to exploit Civil Forum's failure to come up with any

coherent financial programme. The Forum's "middle" or "third" way appears to stifle all individual initiative by preserving punitive taxation, while allowing foreign organizations to penetrate the domestic economy with concessions. This, inevitably, is annoying many citizens who, for years, have longed for market forces.

Last night, the communist party was expected to hold its first rally in Prague since the revolution. Its leader, Mr Vasil Mohoreta, chose the CKD tram factory as the venue. Here six months ago, tram drivers had booted and heckled the despised Prague party chief, Miroslav Stepan. Thanks to Civil Forum's political ineptitude, it seemed likely yesterday that Mr Mohoreta could expect a less critical reception.

Religion vies with politics in Slovakia election battle

FROM PETER GREEN IN BRATISLAVA

AS CZECHOSLOVAKIA prepares to elect new national and federal parliaments next weekend, in Slovakia the campaign has become a battle between the Christian Democratic Movement and the Public Against Violence, the Slovak sister group of Civil Forum, the pro-democracy coalition that led last November's Velvet Revolution in Prague.

PAV is calling for a broad coalition from dissidents and 1968-era reform communists to top officials of the former neo-Stalinist regime who have come round to the right side.

With 15 parties running in Slovakia, neither group appears headed for a majority. According to a poll published in Prague newspapers yesterday, PAV was leading in Slovakia with 25 per cent of the vote, the Christian Democrats in second with 24 per cent and the communists in third place with 9 per cent. At least 14 per cent of Slovaks were still undecided.

Observers say that as the elections near, the requirement that a party must win at least 5 per cent of the vote to be represented in parliament will push voters to cast their ballots for the leading parties, and they expect many of these votes will go to PAV, the broadest coalition.

Both Civil Forum and PAV have angled their campaigns against the Communist Party and have included Slovak nationalist planks in their platform. Part of the rising Slovak nationalist sentiment is represented at its most extreme by the separatist Slovak National Party.

While PAV favours liberal,

secular reforms, like Civil Forum in the Czech Lands, and political pluralism, it remains firmly committed to the federal structure.

The strengthening of the national identity of the long-oppressed Slovak nation was important, said PAV's leader, Mr Roman Zelenay, but it should not divide Czechs and Slovaks.

"We want to adopt the relationship of two equal brothers, but it will be difficult for the older brother to get used to this model," he said.

Mr Zelenay, a religious man who helped found the Christian Democratic Movement in the early days of the revolution, said he would rather be on the right of PAV than the left of the Christian Democrats, but insisted that PAV would prefer to govern with the Christian Democrats, and represent all the people.

Christian Democracy is a more authentically Slovak voice, rooted in the 1,000-year-old traditions of this deeply Catholic half of the country.

With Czechoslovakia's intellectual life centred in Prague, the Slovak dissident movement was largely church-based, and under centuries of Hungarian domination, the dream of Slovak nationhood became intertwined with the Church.

Sitting in the garden of his Bratislava home, Mr Ivan Carnogursky, the chairman of the Christian Democratic Movement discussed the elections. He called for state funding for church-based primary schools, religious education, stronger family-supporting social services and the outlawing of abortion.

"We feel if we are running on Christian Democrat ideals we have to carry them out with all their consequences. Even if women are going to vote against us, because of abortion, for instance, there is not much we can do about it," he said.

His party remains both staunchly anti-communist and strongly in favour of strengthening Slovakia's sovereignty.

"PAV accepts former communists and they have almost actually put them at the head of the party, and also in the PAV leadership... We say we don't want to have anything in common with communists, whether they are red or pink or any other colour."

Mr Carnogursky attacked PAV for retaining the "second- or third-rate yes-men", installed by the communists at the levers of economic and administrative power. "In the six months since the revolution there have been few changes," he said.

"We'd like to see two separate economies, an independent Slovak economy and an independent Czech economy."



Mr Johnston, a Briton, being escorted from a Beirut police station yesterday after being held for robbery

Briton held after Beirut robbery

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN WEST BEIRUT

IN A country where the few remaining foreigners struggle to keep a low profile fearful of abduction by Muslim fundamentalists, a British man was accused yesterday of drawing a gun in broad daylight in Muslim west Beirut and robbing a money-changer. He was arrested by the Lebanese police, another rare practice by Lebanon's decaying law-enforcement agency.

A police spokesman said that Alastair Johnston, aged 20, later indicated they would hand him over to the British embassy after questioning. The spokesman said a man had pointed a gun at a money-changer in the crowded shopping district of Hamrah and snatched \$1,000 (£595) before running away. A Lebanese police patrol captured him.

The embassy in Beirut said that Mr Johnston would be deported to England as soon as possible. They said he was believed to have arrived in Lebanon illegally some months ago through the Christian port of Jounieh, 12 miles north of Beirut. An embassy source said Mr Johnston had worked as a disc jockey in an east Beirut radio station before the inter-Christian war erupted there on January 31.

The source said that Mr Johnston, in need of money, had sold his British passport and told the embassy he had lost it. He had been issued another travel document, but both were cancelled when it was suspected that he had sold the second, too.

Muslim fundamentalists have been detaining for many months four Britons, six Americans and two West Germans south of the city.

Mercury poison threat to Brazil

FROM LOUIS BYRNE IN RIO DE JANEIRO

ALMOST two million Brazilians living in Amazonia could suffer mercury contamination within the next five to 10 years, according to studies being carried out by scientists at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. The indiscriminate use of mercury by the region's gold miners is poisoning rivers and affecting air quality up to several hundred miles from where they work.

Many gold miners and communities living near mining operations have already been affected without their contamination being diagnosed. The symptoms of mercury poisoning are similar to those of malaria which miners, in particular, can catch several times a year.

Studies carried out on fish in the River Madeira in the southern Amazonian state of Rondonia show levels of contamination up to six times higher than the maximum recommended as permissible by the World Health Organization.

Indians living in southern and central Amazonia have also already been affected. Studies of samples of their hair show concentrations of mercury more than four times higher than in hair samples of people living in Rio de Janeiro. The first results of tests

on the hair of Yanomami Indians in the north-western Amazonian state of Roraima, however, do not reveal signs of contamination; 150 samples were taken from Indians in villages at different distances from the region's illegal gold-mining operations.

"We believe the Indians have not yet been contaminated because they do not work directly with the miners," Dr Wolfgang Pfeiffer, who is leading the long-term study at the Institute of Biophysics at Rio's Federal University, said.

Mercury is used by Brazil's miners to separate gold collected from the river bed. It is then burnt off the gold, releasing a poisonous vapour into the atmosphere. Last year former President José Sarney banned the use of mercury in gold mines, but was unable to enforce the law. The logistics of Brazil's vast Amazon region, where more than a million men work in often small clandestine mines, means mercury is widely used.

Both scientists and ecologists accept that it will probably be impossible completely to stop the use of mercury. Experts believe almost 200 tonnes of mercury, or between 2 and 11 per cent of the total in the atmosphere worldwide, has come from Brazil.

Cheque in ghostly comeback

FROM HARRY DEBELIUS IN MADRID

SHADES of the past put Spain's best-known ghost-watcher behind bars briefly here yesterday.

Senora Carmen Sánchez de Castro, aged 52, who rose to fame a week ago after recording what she claimed were ghostly voices of incestuous aristocrats in a long-closed Madrid palace, was arrested on a charge pending from 1981, relating to a bad cheque.

At the same time, a shadow of doubt was cast on her qualifications after reporters learned that Senora Sánchez, who claimed to be a doctor in psychology and psychiatry, was not a member of the local medical association.

In a controversial 18-month investigation at first commissioned and later cancelled by the Madrid town hall, Senora Sánchez claimed to have recorded eerie whispers and lamentations at the palace and to have taken photographs of wraiths and ectoplasm.

A photographer from the official news agency Efe, who accompanied her, photographed mysterious shadows in the palace.

The taped ghostly noises sent shivers down the spine of countless Spaniards when broadcast on several radio news shows.

US Navy stands by off Liberia

FROM REUTERS IN MONROVIA

AMERICAN naval ships stood off the Liberian coast yesterday to evacuate Americans, but gunfire which closed the airport turned out to be army troops firing at each other and not a rebel attack.

Six ships carrying 2,000 marines sailed close to the coast of the West African country over the weekend. They were ordered into international waters off Liberia last week.

Liberian officials said they wanted the Marines to help defend the capital, Monrovia, from a rebel force which is within 30 miles of the city. The rebels, led by a dissident businessman, Mr Charles Taylor, are trying to overthrow President Doe.

Washington has said the taskforce has been sent to evacuate about 1,100 Americans still in Liberia if they are threatened by the fighting in Monrovia. But diplomats said the United States appeared to be playing a role in seeking a negotiated settlement.

Government sources and diplomats said that President Doe would probably have to leave the country under any settlement.

Hundreds of women and children of Mr Doe's Krahn tribe poured into a tiny local airport, hoping to fly to Guinea or parts of Liberia still under government control under government control. The Krahn fear reprisals by Gio and Mano tribesmen backing Mr Taylor in what has become largely a tribal war with hundreds of civilians killed by both sides.

All international airlines cancelled flights to Liberia on Monday after fighting broke out on Owensgrove, a town 10 miles from the main airport. However, diplomats said that two groups of soldiers, one guarding a checkpoint and the other bringing wounded soldiers from the country's second port, Buchanan, began firing on each other with rocket-propelled grenades and other weapons. There were no reports of government casualties but both groups of soldiers fled and rebels later moved through the town.

The rebels advanced further on Monday night, moving into the Firestone Plantations Company rubber plantation, the biggest enterprise still under government control. Mr Taylor, a former official who fled Liberia in 1983 after he was accused of embezzling \$900,000, led an invasion force of about 150 rebels into Liberia from neighbouring Ivory Coast six months ago. He now claims to have thousands of guerrillas poised to strike at Monrovia.

Malibu affluent vote on affluent

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN SAN FRANCISCO

IT IS 27 sun-drenched miles long and one wide. It is the exclusive Pacific coast retreat of the very rich and very famous. By the time you reach this, Malibu Beach may also have unilaterally declared independence from Los Angeles and be establishing home rule.

As the rest of California voted yesterday in the Democratic gubernatorial primaries, the likes of stars such as Oliver Newton-John, Larry Hagman and Ali McGraw held their own separate vote on an issue which had its origins in a seemingly dispute about the affluent.

Although the cheaper Malibu Beach home costs well over \$1 million (£590,000), the Los Angeles authorities contended in 1986 that many of them had old and leaking septic tanks which were polluting the celebrated seashore.

They proposed the installation of an \$86 million main sewerage system, which would have cost the average home owner \$32,000 in assessment. Later they scaled their plan down to a \$43 million system but Malibu's 20,000 residents were still appalled.

It was not the cost that upset them but the fact that mains sewerage system would lead to wholesale development of their little Eden. "We are trying to keep a few places left where you don't inhale gasoline fumes all the time. This could become a Corvair Island or an Atlantic City," protested the actor Burt Reynolds - Penguin in *Beverly Hills Cop* - referring to the US equivalents of Blackpool or Clacton.

The dispute flamed Malibu Beach both a simmering resentment of "far-away" rule from Los Angeles and fears of being swamped by California's ever-swelling population, up by nearly seven million since the last decade. This led to yesterday's vote which was generally expected to endorse independence.

Amid the stars, some plain "ordinary" folks also live Malibu. However, and there was a substantial body opposition.

Though the stars generally endorsed cityhood, none were among the 30 candidates running for five seats on Malibu's putative new city council yesterday.

There were also serious doubts that a community built around surf and sand could sustain the will to raise revenue, run a police force and yes - deal with its own affluent.

More boat people go back home

HONG KONG - A group of 129

Vietnamese boat people flew back to Vietnam yesterday, bringing the total number of voluntary returnees to 2,590, a spokesman for the Hong Kong Government said. The group is the 23rd to return under the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees voluntary repatriation programme, which began in March last year.

Hong Kong camps and detention centres hold more than 55,000 Vietnamese, of which more than 10,000 have been classified as economic migrants and eligible only for repatriation. The Hong Kong Government hopes the number of people returning to Vietnam will double to 1,000 a month in July when reception facilities in Hanoi are expanded. (Reuters)

Holiday express in collision

DELHI - A freight train and a

Bombay-bound express crowded with holidaymakers collided head-on on Monday night in southern India, killing at least 11 people and injuring 63 others. Survivors said that most passengers were asleep and those in upper berths were hurled to the floor when the two trains collided.

Nine cars on the passenger train were derailed, including two coaches left standing on end. The express was made up of 13 cars, an indication that it was carrying about 950 passengers. Rescuers searched the wreckage throughout the night for survivors. (AP)

Couple double up lottery win

SYDNEY - Mrs Michelle

Kenny, a Sydney secretary and her husband won a \$44,000 lottery for the second time in three weeks. The couple, who used the first win to pay off their mortgage, bought five more lottery tickets when collecting their winnings. "I've never really been a lucky person," said Mrs Kenny. (Reuters)

De Klerk faces Durban defeat

FROM REUTERS IN DURBAN

PRESIDENT F.W. de Klerk faces white South African voters today for the first time since he introduced reforms aimed at black power-sharing. Political analysts say the right-wing Conservative Party could win the suburban Durban constituency of Umlazi from Mr de Klerk's National Party in a whites-only parliamentary by-election.

Mr de Klerk's ruling margin in parliament is unassailable - 102 seats in the 178-seat house - but the Umlazi result will be the first reliable indication of white feelings about his plans for a non-racial, democratic South Africa.

The campaign in mainly blue-collar Umlazi, on a hill overlooking Durban, has ignored local issues to focus on the national debate: the scrapping of apartheid laws and the enfranchising of blacks who outnumber whites by five-to-

one. The pro-apartheid Conservatives play on white fears of black rulers, blacks moving in next door, black children in white schools and "black communism" overwhelming "Western values".

Umlazi is the biggest Nationalist stronghold in Natal. Even if the Conservatives come a respectable second - they trailed the Nationalists and the liberal Democratic Party in last September's general election - it will send a frisson of fright through the De Klerk camp.

Some government officials concede Mr de Klerk may have moved too fast for many whites. Since February he has legalized much black political activity, freed Mr Nelson Mandela, begun exploratory talks with the ANC and begun dismantling the intricate framework of apartheid laws.

WALLACE HEATON

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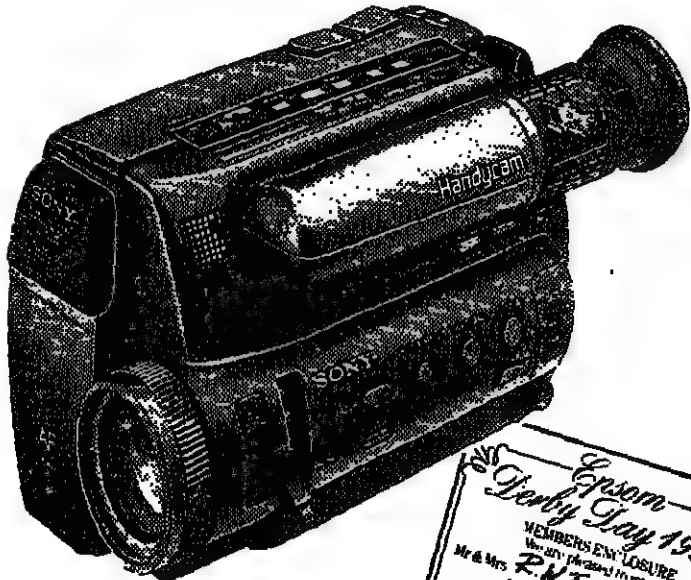
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Squeezing the centre

Martin Jacques

The SDP decision to wind itself up was made with a degree of dignity and decorum. Because of entrenched interests and deeply-rooted habits, no institution finds it easy to sign its own death warrant. Political parties are no exception.

Old parties, when they lose their point, do not die but simply fade away. Of course, the SDP was at most only nine years old, and arguably a mere two. Such a short history is more easily foreclosed than a long one, especially since, in its final incarnation, the party had become so palpably a personal vehicle for its leader. One can have a little sympathy for Dr Owen's internal critics who viewed with some contempt his dalliance with Labour while the party was on its sickbed.

It is Owen's preoccupation with the Labour Party which has set the parameters of much of the debate about what the death of the SDP is likely to mean. The assumption is that Labour will be the inevitable and natural beneficiary. Yet this seems rather unlikely, for two main reasons. First, while Owen is preoccupied with the Labour Party, he is not representative of the majority of the SDP or its voters. From the outset, almost two-thirds of the membership were political virgins, drawn from outside the world of political parties. The refugees from the Labour Party were always in a minority. In that sense, Rosie Barnes is more typical of the SDP than John Cartwright.

Secondly, ever since Owen's blinkered and foolhardy decision to oppose merger with the Liberals and go it alone, the centre ground has been confused by the existence of two parties. The matter has now been clarified. The Liberal Democrats have the field to themselves, and will therefore be the more likely beneficiary of the SDP's demise.

Much political interest has focused recently on Labour's ability to win the centre ground. After an era that saw an enormous bacchanalia of Labour's support to the centre, that is understandable. But it is easy to over-estimate the likely movement in the opposite direction. Certainly the heady days of the last two elections are over. It is very difficult to imagine the Liberal Democrats getting anywhere near the 25 per cent that the Alliance polled in the 1983 general election or even its 22.6 per cent in 1987. But it is also difficult to believe that their present opinion-poll rating accurately reflects what they will achieve at the next general election.

In the local elections last month the Liberal Democrats polled some about 18 per cent of the total vote. At the general election, they could well get somewhere in the region of 15-20 per cent, which

would be better than the Liberals achieved in 1979, and roughly on a par with their performance in 1974, which was their post-war high-water mark. If we add to this the votes for the Greens and the Scottish and Welsh nationalists, the total vote for third parties will remain substantial, amounting to around 25 per cent.

The continuing strength of the centre vote should not be a source of surprise. In their study of the 1983 election, *How Britain Votes*, Anthony Heath, Roger Jowell and John Curric argued that the Alliance was slowly carving out for itself a distinctive social profile. Its 22.6 per cent support in the 1987 election broadly confirmed this.

That support was far from being simply a protest vote. Those who voted for the Alliance were fairly representative of the electorate as a whole, but the core group was drawn from the salariat, particularly teachers, social workers and technical experts such as systems analysts and computer programmers. Here, the Alliance came a comfortable second behind the Conservatives, and well ahead of Labour.

Clearly, the appeal of the Liberal Democrats to these groups will not be as strong as that of the Alliance. But the Liberal Democrats remain a rather more serious and better-stocked party than were the pre-Alliance Liberals. What is more, there is now something of a tradition to draw upon, especially in the south where these groups are most numerous and where the Liberal Democrats will inherit second place behind the Tories in many constituencies.

Part of the Labour Party's problem has for long been linked to structural change — the decline in its traditional constituency and the growth of the new middle classes. It has done best when its support has been cross-class, as in 1945, and worst when dependent on its working-class base, as in 1983. But the problem has slowly become more acute with change in the class structure, and the slow growth of the centre since the 1960s, culminating in the sizeable Alliance vote of the mid-1980s, has greatly exacerbated it.

At the next election, for the first time, the salariat will be larger than the working class, and the biggest single social category. Even if Labour appeals as strongly as it has ever done to its traditional working-class base, and to foremen, technicians and routine non-manual workers, without salariat support, it can poll only 35 per cent. The salariat has become decisive, both numerically and also in setting the tone of politics. Labour can win only if it does well among them, but the Liberal Democrats will be a powerful force, laying claim to a not inconsiderable legacy.

Within their rights, but the Lords are again on trial

Andrew Adonis sets the defeat of the War Crimes Bill in context — and considers the possible consequences



The Parliament Act abolished the Lords' veto on financial measures and reduced to two years its power to delay most other bills. In 1949 that two years was reduced to less than a year by Clement Attlee's Labour government, fearful that the peers might try to delay its nationalization legislation. Both acts, however, left the hereditary composition of the Lords unchanged. Attempts at reform were made by Attlee and by Harold Wilson's government in 1969-70. Both failed, and the only significant modification of the Lords' composition since its restoration with the monarchy in 1660 was the introduction of life peers (and peeresses) in 1958.

None the less, today's House of Lords is a world apart from "Mr Balfour's poodle". Life peers account for more than half the regular attendees, and although the Tories still command a clear majority, it is no longer the one-party state that it was. Moreover, the peers have long accepted that their essential role is not to obstruct but to revise government legislation; and as the increasing government use of the guillotine in the Commons has made that job ever more important, so also the work of the Upper House in scrutinizing the activities of the executive and the European Community has earned it respect across the political spectrum.

Legally, the House of Lords

retains the delaying powers accorded it under the 1911 and 1949 Parliament Acts. In practice, however, it observes a self-denying ordinance sometimes called the "Salisbury convention" (after the 5th Marquess of Salisbury, who led the Tory peers from 1942 to 1957), whereby it never challenges the principles of a government bill provided they are contained in the governing party's election manifesto.

Not that relations have always been smooth. On the contrary, the peers are enthusiastic revisers; they frequently ask the Commons to think again about particular proposals, and all recent governments, Tory as well as Labour, have found their lords' attentions irksome. Yet close adherence to the Salisbury convention has so successfully kept the peers clear of serious controversy that the Parliament Acts have not been invoked for more than 40 years.

That is, perhaps, until the War Crimes Bill. But if the Commons does override the Lords, which it can in some 10 months' time, that is likely to be the exception that proves the rule. For the bill in question is a peculiar measure, and the Lords' treatment of it involves no breach of the Salisbury convention.

In the first place, war crimes

legislation featured in none of the parties' manifestos at the last election. Indeed the Hetherington-Chalmers report, which gave rise to the disputed bill, was published only last July; and it is barely six months since the Commons resolved to proceed with legislation to implement it. In the view of its advocates, speed was of the essence, given the age of those alleged by the report to be *prima facie* answerable for "horrific instances of mass murder". Those against felt equally strongly about the implications of changing the law retroactively to allow trials for crimes committed more than 45 years ago in the heat of war. Simply to rehearse the arguments is to see that if the second chamber has any significant role at all, it is in such circumstances: to ensure full public debate, over a reasonable period, before MPs commit the country to measures with important legal, moral and political implications.

Secondly, the War Crimes Bill is a highly unusual type of government bill. Its direct origin is a Commons motion, successfully tabled last December by a Tory backbencher (Sir Bernard Braine), calling for legislation to allow immigrants to be tried for certain war crimes. David Waddington, the Home Secretary, introduced the War Crimes Bill to that end, but at every stage of its passage through the Commons, MPs were

allowed a free vote (indeed three cabinet ministers voted against the proposal in December). So the bill is more akin to a private member's bill than to a government measure proper, and peers have always maintained their right to deal with such measures according to their consciences, as, for example, when they rejected Sydney Silverman's 1956 bill to abolish capital punishment.

The Lords anyway had good cause to question the strength of MPs' convictions on the matter; when the Commons passed the War Crimes Bill on April 25, only 145 MPs — barely a fifth of the House — bothered to vote.

If the Lords' action breaches no convention, it nevertheless highlights the anomaly of the composition of the House. For however strong their political and constitutional case, the peers have no democratic mandate, and their leaders can never fully rebut charges such as Greville Janner's that they are no more than a collection of "elderly, unselected lawyers, out of touch with public opinion". The ghosts of Cromwell, Gladstone and Lloyd George are unlikely to stir in the next few months. But the peers' action on Monday may do more than anything else in recent years to put Lords reform on the political agenda.

The author is a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

Conor Cruise O'Brien urges the West to heed Soviet concerns for its security

Germany: Nato yes, nuclear no

Even those of us with misgivings can agree that the sooner Germany is united and fully sovereign, the better. The greater the resistance, the more likely is a resurgence of German nationalism. Yet there is resistance on the Soviet side, for adequate reasons, and both the West and the Germans must come to terms with it.

President Bush's approach at last week's summit seemed about right. He was taking Soviet concerns about their security seriously, but trying to persuade Mr Gorbachev that these concerns can be reconciled with a united Germany's membership of Nato. And indeed such a reconciliation is possible.

The Soviet objection to Germany being in Nato is essentially a way of persuading the US to discuss the terms on which German reunification can be reconciled with Soviet concerns about its own security. What looms in the background is the spectre of a united Germany with nuclear weapons. A united Germany with even a very moderate rise in nationalism might well decide that it needs such weapons,

for reasons of security and status. As far as security is concerned, it faces a grossly unstable Soviet Union, with a formidable nuclear arsenal. As for status, the question is obvious: if France and Britain each has an independent deterrent, why not Germany?

The old answer — more or less accepted by Germans themselves for decades — was that Germany's record of military aggression meant that it could not be trusted with such weapons. But that answer is no longer presentable in the West: the prevailing doctrine, at least in public discourse, is that Bonn's impeccable record, over more than two generations, proves there is no reason to doubt the conduct of a united Germany. But the Soviet leadership does not find this doctrine convincing, and is concerned about its implications.

If a united Germany unconditionally becomes a member of Nato, and if it announces its intention to obtain nuclear weapons — or simply goes ahead and acquires them — its Nato partners will have no presentable grounds for objection. Some things have become officially unsayable in the late 20th century, and one of these

is that while Britain and France can be trusted with an independent nuclear deterrent, Germany cannot.

Moscow knows, therefore, that a united Germany within Nato will be free to acquire nuclear weapons unless it is specifically precluded from doing so by international agreement before reunification comes about.

The Soviet Union (or Russia, whichever is the dominant entity in the months to come) will not withdraw its 380,000 troops from East Germany until its security requirements are fully met. This does not necessarily mean that a united Germany cannot be in Nato. It can be, provided the principal Nato countries are prepared to meet Moscow's essential precondition, which, though the Soviet leadership has so far scarcely alluded to it publicly, is that Germany should not have nuclear weapons.

In circumstances of great turmoil at home, Gorbachev's position naturally dominated the public comment on last week's summit. On German unity, however, his personal position is of no significance. The views he

expressed are collective, shared by all Soviet leaders, civil and military.

When the Berlin Wall came down, Gorbachev was inclined to take German reunification as a matter of course, without making stipulations. But civil and military colleagues soon called him to order, as I had predicted.

The Soviet position on German unity should not, therefore, be linked to the perceived weakness of the present Soviet leader. Gorbachev may not last much longer, but Moscow's position on German unity will survive him. There is great danger in the present tendency in the West to assume that German reunification, and full sovereignty, will come about irrespective of what the Russians may think, say or do.

An ugly situation could arise this year if Germany becomes unified, politically and economically, without Soviet security conditions being met. In that case, Germans would see the Russian troops on their soil as an impediment, blocking the way to sovereign independence. A better recipe for the inflammation of German nationalism could hardly

be imagined. Anti-Soviet demonstrations, leading to riots, leading in turn to armed repression, would be sure to follow. And in the ensuing international uproar, Russian nationalism, too, would become inflamed.

This dire train of events may be just around the corner as German reunification speeds ahead, irrespective of the Soviet position. Serious negotiations aimed at the speedy withdrawal of those Soviet troops are, therefore, urgently needed. The two-plus-four talks are no longer a useful forum, since they produce a five-versus-one result. What is needed, immediately, is a series of bilateral talks. Let us hope that the Bush-Gorbachev meeting at Camp David made some progress.

As I said at the beginning, it is possible that Soviet concerns about their security can be reconciled with a united Germany being a full member of Nato. But if German membership of Nato remains a stumbling block, a united Germany outside Nato would be preferable to Soviet troops remaining on the soil of a united Germany while the argument drags on.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

During the twelve months leading up to each festival, the people of Edinburgh tend to go in for being riven asunder. Half the council objects to giving money to mime artists impersonating oranges from South Africa, while the other half objects to financing "84 productions featuring the Queen Mother on roller-skates. Ordinary citizens write strong letters to *The Scotsman*, objecting to the fifth left behind by tourists. Writers have rows with directors who have rows with actors who have rows with each other, and they all in turn claim that they were misquoted by journalists.

How very different is the pre-festival life of our own dear Aldeburgh. With the Aldeburgh Festival beginning on Monday, widespread outbreaks of calm have descended on the town. Politeness is stalking the streets. Courtesy is prowling the promenade, doffing his cap to one and all. The good citizens of Aldeburgh cannot leave their houses at night without finding themselves bid a cheery "Good Evening" by passing members of the Executive Pleasant Front, who gained control of the town years ago and have retained their relaxed grip ever since.

Since my arrival last Saturday, I have been overwhelmed by the niceness of Aldeburgh. Nowhere in Britain can the words "Please" and "Thank you" be trilled with such abandon. If you go into the greengrocer and say, "A bunch of grapes, please", the kind lady will say, "Thank you" before getting you the grapes and another "Thank you" as she hands them to you; she will then ask you if you can get you anything else, please, and you will say, "No, thank you", and she will say "Thank you" before telling you how much you owe her, please; she will say "Thank you" again on receiving your money. "Thank you" is more on giving you the change, a third "Thank you" as you start to leave and a final "Thank you" as you reach the door.

The niceness of Aldeburgh abounds in the other shops, too. The cinema must be the only half-timbered cinema in the land. The clothes shops have window displays of towelling robes and sensible shoes. There is a marked lack of aspirational

hard-sell in all the windows, an indifference to the style trends fostered elsewhere by the chain stores. The grocer's window is the showcase for a pleasant pyramid of kitchen towels. The food shops close at lunchtime, but they don't go to the bother of bringing all their produce inside before shutting up.

The newsgirls sell model sailing boats made of wood with proper cotton sails. We chose a red one with yellow sails for our daughter and took it along to the boating pond on the front. We noticed with some trepidation that all the other boats were red with yellow sails, but it didn't seem to matter. The other children, all wearing shorts and with nice manners, were happy to share and share alike, and there were no tiffs at all. The model boating pond is overlooked by a statue of a dog, erected in memory of a local vet and his wife.

The artiness of Aldeburgh is in harmony with its niceness, the former stopping the latter becoming too Little Englandish, and the latter stopping the former from giving itself airs. It is easy to buy the most obscure Britten opera in Aldeburgh, but for any record by Soul II Soul or Madonna, you would have to brave Ipswich. Aldeburgh is both quaint and cosmopolitan: the woman who owns the health food shop was able to recite "Round and Round the Garden" in Polish to my daughter while packaging some Italian brown rice.

Debraan Greene would feel at home in most English seaside towns, with their gaudy decay and their ever-present promise of lurking menace, but he could do his anonymous creeping around Aldeburgh from dawn until dusk without ever catching sight of a yob, a broken bottle or a unfrocked priest. At dead of night, I walked past a members-only drinking club, the sort of place that would have made Greene come over all faint, only to hear a jovial chorus of ho-ho-ho's emerging, in the jocular manner of an Ealing comedy. In Aldeburgh, even the wildlife refuses to be too wild.

The seagulls, elsewhere so unruly, here eschew gangs, going around in twos and threes, keeping themselves to themselves, and certainly never cawing before 9.30am.

Cathedral confrontation

The tranquility of Salisbury has been disturbed by a row over the £1,000-a-head gala event being staged by Edward Heath on June 23 to raise £250,000 for the cathedral's appeal. A champagne reception is being held in Heath's riverside garden, followed by a cathedral concert and a gourmet dinner in a marquee on his lawn. But Alan Richardson, who edits the *Salisbury Cathedral News*, has branded the event "elitist". Guests include Helmut Schmidt and David Rockefeller, but Richardson asks how many Salisbury residents will be able to join the international glitterati jettison to join the junketings fore and aft of the concert? Richardson says he is "boycotting" the concert, preferring the comfort of the local hostelry and a meat sandwich. "If you feel the £1,000 is a little too steep for dinner," he writes, "you can always settle for the pre-concert champagne reception at a meagre £250. This event must be the ultimate in elitism."

The article has caused a rumpus in the town, where Heath's efforts to boost the £6.5 million appeal enjoy considerable support. The Dean, Hugh Dickinson, has dissociated himself from his editor and apologized to Heath. Frank Lockyer, the retired policeman in charge of the fund-raising, has attacked Richardson as "the unacceptable face of Christianity".

Heath expresses his regret that Richardson should "ridicule and condemn" those able to make large donations to charity. He has

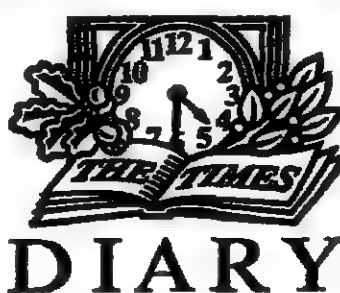
challenged him to stage his own concert for Salisbury's 38,000 residents, and offered to conduct if Richardson can provide the orchestra, soloist and publicity. "Outsiders, especially distinguished foreign ones," he writes to Richardson, "can of course be banned from these functions if you wish. I cannot be sure whether this procedure would abolish elitism. What I can guarantee is that it would not produce a penny for the Spire Appeal." Richardson, unrepentant, said yesterday: "I praised Ted Heath in my editorial five times. I admire what he has done, and wish the event well. But I still wonder how many Salisbury people will be there."

Ulster Television's decision on legal grounds not to screen the controversial *Shoot to Kill* back-fired on Sunday night when the station broadcast *Oracle* subtitles to the documentary during the *Alan Alda* comedy that replaced it. To make matters worse, technicians could not find a way to stop the subtitles going out. In the end they pulled the plug on the entire *Oracle* service.

Halfway house

Lord Skewton is living up to his old Commons nickname. As the Labour MP Sir Hartley Shawcross, he swiftly became known in the 1950s as Sir Shorty Floorcross, because of the frequent speculation that he was on the verge of defecting to the Tories. When he finally did leave Labour, it was for the Social Democrat benches in the House of Lords.

Peers watched with bated breath as he made his way into the



DIARY

chamber on Monday after the death of his adopted party. From where would the former attorney general and Nuremberg chief prosecutor deliver his keynote speech opposing the War Crimes Bill? Would he return to the Labour fold or finally make it across to the Tories? In the event, neither. He chose as his new home the Independent cross benches, where he sat shoulder-to-shoulder with the Chief Rabbi, Lord Jakobovits, and the Queen's racing manager, the Earl of Carnarvon.

Going off

Is a Derby Day losing its glamour? Once the most prestigious horse race in the world, and rivaling the Grand National as the housewives' favourite flutter, the Ever Ready Derby's batteries appear to have gone rather flat. The quality of the horses is said to be poor, without a Shergar or a Nijinsky in sight. In recent weeks, no fewer than six horses have appeared in the bookies' lists as favourites — and four have since been withdrawn. As recently as early May it was possible to get 50-1 on Razeev, which will start as favourite today.

Along with a decline in the quality of the horseflesh, the prize-money is now well down the international list, with several imitation "derbies", such as the Japanese, far outstripping the Epsom original; only about two million people will watch the race live on television; and for the first time, ante-post betting on the Derby will be exceeded by that on the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

Beating the drum for business, a spokesman for William Hill said: "It may not be a purists' race this year, but the absence of a single outstanding runner makes it a real pin-sticker's Derby. There won't be a soul in the land who doesn't know it is Derby Day. We still expect to take £7 million on the day."

Lester Piggott, who rode nine Derby winners, agrees. "You can't have champions every year," he says. "The prestige hasn't changed. The Derby is more than a race — it's an institution." A tip for this most open Derby in years? The Diary is having a modest each-way bet on Missionary Ridge. It is owned by Sir Gordon White, partner of Lord Hanson, whose business empire includes Ever Ready, the sponsor.

If it wins, Sir Gordon will not only recoup his sponsorship prize money, but will collect £500,000 from an early bet at 100-1.

Amid great media hype, Paddy Ashdown bedded down for the night with the down-and-outs of *Cardboard City* on Monday. Less publicized was the way he fortified himself for the ordeal: dining at Methuselah's, a popular West-minster wine bar. Needless to say, none of his adopted neighbours for the night were with him.

A merry dance

The Kirov Ballet, which last night opened its five-week London season at the Coliseum, was insisting almost until curtain-up that Faroukh Ruzimatov would be dancing in *Le Corsaire*. The Entertainment Corporation, which is promoting the season, told all who asked yesterday: "We aren't heard anything else." But Ruzimatov was in New York last night, dancing his first *Romeo and Juliet*. "I would like to clear up any confusion regarding my performances in London this summer," he said. "I will be appearing exclusively with the American Ballet Theatre, which I joined as principal dancer this past April." But clearly the message has not yet got through to the Kirov. Their advertisements continue to feature a picture of Ruzimatov dancing in *Le Corsaire*, one of his finest roles. *Perestroika* allowed Ruzimatov to leave the Soviet Union without having to defect, but clearly old habits die hard: the Kirov seems to believe that freedom of movement should be restricted to the dance stage.

1520

out the trial

Bill in
nces

HOUSE OF COMMONS

The House of Lords was right yesterday to use its constitutional power to reject the War Crimes Bill — right and within its rights. The action was motivated neither by squeamishness nor by a wish to forgive and forget the crimes which would be the subject of any prosecution. The issue was whether, given the uncertainty of identification and the difficulty of bringing witnesses to Britain, any defendant could be assured of a fair trial more than 40 years after the alleged crimes. The question was whether justice would be seen to be done. The answer, for all practical purposes, was no. There was therefore no point in passing a law encumbered by the additional evil of retrospective.

A number of speakers in the debate none the less said that, whatever the merits of the case, the Lords were not justified in using the powers they have to reject a Bill sent to it by the House of Commons, especially when it had passed the Commons on a free vote. Some Labour peers were even known to have voted with the Government simply so as to avoid a potentially embarrassing constitutional clash. Yet the Lords were not only perfectly within their rights to use their powers; they would, in effect, have been admitting the futility of those powers if they had failed to vote according to their consciences on a measure such as this.

Under the Parliament Act of 1949, the Lords can delay Bills, other than money Bills, for a year. For so long as this power exists, the chamber has a right to use it. At no time in British parliamentary history has it been thought good for a single chamber to exercise untrammelled authority, except for a short unhappy period under the Rump Parliament, whose own power had been built on ejecting MPs who disagreed with it. A pragmatic variant on the 1949 Act might argue that the Lords should not reject a major Commons' Bill arising from an election commitment for which the Government had obtained a mandate and imposed a Whip. The War Crimes Bill was not such a Bill. The Lords have performed their existing function immaculately. The Commons has been asked to reconsider its Bill and should do so in the light of sensible comments made on it by the Lords.

There remains the issue of the hereditary element in the Lords, a lingering trace of

"unfairness" in an otherwise democratic constitution. Since the Parliament Act of 1911 curtailed the power of the Lords (then a hereditary and overwhelmingly Tory chamber), there has been a pious hope that a consensus could be reached whereby heredity and patronage should be replaced by some system based on election. Agreement on this has proved elusive, largely because of Labour's long attachment to a unicameral Parliament with no impediment to the actions of a Labour House of Commons.

Apart from the Crossman attempt at Lords reform in 1968-69, aborted by an alliance of the Labour left and the Tory right, Labour governments have found it convenient to do nothing. Despite the predominance of life-peers in the daily work of the House, Labour could hold the threat of extinction over it by merely citing the need to get rid of heredity. As a result, the Lords usually feel more free to embarrass a Tory than a Labour government.

Labour, in its recent policy statement, has changed its mind. The former manifesto commitment to total abolition is now a reform produced by Mr Roy Hattersley (himself a former uni-cameralist) which illuminates the action the Lords have just taken. The party favours an elected second chamber, able to revise Bills but not to reject or delay them, with the important exception of those which concern fundamental rights. Such Bills could be delayed for the full term of a Parliament to allow "reference back" at a general election.

Mr Kinnock has since revealed his disinclination to find time for Lords' reform in his first Parliament. Yet Labour's acceptance in principle of a second chamber with a constitution-defending role is important, for that principle would clearly cover the drastic legal innovations contained in the War Crimes Bill. The Lords can at present claim to be well equipped for such defence, free as they are from the constituency pressures faced by the Commons. Such pressure, however, depends on their not being elected, or at least not subject to periodic re-election and thus to party discipline. Labour needs to ponder again the question of composition. But to have apparently accepted that yesterday's vote offers a good instance of a second chamber doing its job is progress indeed.

LORDS IN ACTION

SIMPLIFYING COCOM

The conflicting claims of security and Western trade can never be reconciled. A blacklist of products and technology which cannot be sold to Warsaw Pact countries and others deemed hostile to Western interests is maintained by the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom). The list covers some 140 categories of equipment and technology with possible military applications. This is absurdly long and has led to a running battle between the United States and its allies in Europe and elsewhere. It includes goods no longer of strategic value or readily available outside the 17 Cocom countries. Some items on the list, such as personal computers, are available in any Western department store. Companies have become adept at exploiting grey areas in a needlessly complex system.

Events in Eastern Europe make it urgent to streamline Cocom procedures. The meeting which begins today in Paris is expected to relax the rules considerably in three areas vital to the new democracies' prospects of transforming their economies: computers, machine tools and, most controversially, telecommunications.

Telephone equipment is a classic instance of the West's dilemma. Eastern Europe (and the Soviet Union) desperately need modern communications, and the market is huge. But fibre optics and digital packet switches, diverted to military use, could revolutionize Soviet missile technology. Cocom governments therefore need to go beyond fine-tuning and work out new principles for liberalization.

There are two approaches. The British want a short list of obviously sensitive products and technologies, such as super-computers, atomic energy and sonars, applied as before to the entire Eastern bloc. The United States takes the view that democratic friends — Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary in particular — should be treated more favourably than the Soviet Union.

Supporters of the latter view point out that, following unification, East Germany will have access to strategically significant West German technology, and also, under the European single market, to American technology exported to the Community. Bonn has suggested surmounting this problem by creating unified German controls on re-export (which would still leave East Germany free to export to the Soviet Union its "own" technology). East European democracies, on this reasoning, should be allowed to import controlled goods on the same basis as other neutral non-Cocom countries, provided they promise not to re-export them to the Soviet Union, and be helped to set up their own controls.

The Americans, in a tacit acknowledgement that this is hardly a realistic proposition, would supplement national controls with a system of Western inspection to ensure that the technology does not leak eastward. Yet "end-user" verification is notoriously difficult, as recent experience with chemical weapons and missile technology testifies.

Eastern Europe will remain a KGB hunting ground for years to come. What reaches these countries will reach the Soviet Union. Negotiated arms reductions could, paradoxically, make strategic controls even more important, since remaining weapons systems must be ever more sophisticated. Denial of state-of-the-art military technology to Eastern Europe will not ruin its chances of catching up economically, but could tip the strategic balance against the West. Cocom should settle for the British scheme. It should concentrate on core products and technologies and apply the embargo more strictly than has been possible with long laundry-lists of doubtful strategic relevance.

THE WRONG TRACK

Three years ago Sheffield resolved to go for gold by bidding for the 1991 World Student Games. Little more than 12 months before the opening event, the gold looks most likely to come from the city's less than ecstatic poll tax payers. If local democratic accountability means anything, this is more fool them for electing a council so intent on the dubious glamour of international stardom.

The idea may have been fine in principle. Birmingham has its thriving exhibition centre, Glasgow is this year's European city of culture and Manchester has applied (probably in vain) to stage the next but one Olympic Games. The theory behind the Sheffield enterprise was that the income would come from sponsors. The Los Angeles Olympics in 1984 had made a profit, including \$287 million from television rights alone.

While Los Angeles did the Olympics a great service by exemplifying the possible reward to one-off sports occasions, its influence elsewhere has proved a mixed blessing. It planted the idea that one had only to invite along the sponsors and the event would make money like a fruit machine. The city of Sheffield, whose industrial revolution has run its course, saw a chance to burnish its battered, smoke-stained image on the strength of 6,000 athletes, 11 sports, 200,000 visitors and 130 countries represented.

These figures have turned out to represent not so much revenues as costs. The latest estimate for constructing the facilities is nearly £150 million, which seems likely to saddle the Sheffield with huge debts. Whether the stadium, swimming pool and athletes' village will justify the investment is doubtful.

According to one estimate by its critics the pool will need 1,000 daily customers to break even as a municipal facility.

The biggest single promise of real money has so far been the £3 million pledged by the Sports Council. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has been asked to consider minting a special coin. Now the city council has taken over control from Universtade GB, the organization set up to run the games, while the Sports Council is helping with marketing expertise. The poll-tax payers of Sheffield must underwrite the event until other sources of income can be found.

Such a search is unlikely to be successful. Student games have a following abroad, notably in Eastern Europe and the Far East. In this country most people are unaware of them, mostly because few sports are university-based. Organizations with money to spend on backing sport were unlikely to be bowled over by the prospect of supporting an event jealously guarded by Sheffield and more notable for its cost than its charisma. The last student games in 1989 were rescued from financial oblivion in Brazil only by the intervention of West Germany, which hurriedly staged a more modest show in Duisburg.

Neither the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh four years ago nor the European Indoor Championships in Glasgow earlier this year did much for Britain's reputation as a sporting host. A third failure must deter such events from coming here again. Yet as long as they are planned by naive local councillors with stars in their eyes, such failure is unavoidable. The student games should be sent back to Duisburg.

Doubts on extent of Globe site

From Professor Andrew Gurr

Sir, The world should be asking Hanson Trust what is happening about the Globe site. In the eight months since the Museum of London dig found part of the remains of Shakespeare's theatre, Hanson, the owners of the site, have been right-tipped about their plans.

Six months ago I suggested to them that they could make a ground impulse radar scan of the site, to see if it could show how much more of the foundations are still there. This was done in mid-February, 16 weeks ago. I have now been told that its results are to be kept confidential for an indefinite time. We are entitled to ask why.

The Globe was officially scheduled as a historic monument in February. The scheduling encompasses an area 120 feet in diameter. That dimension was suggested by the Museum of London's report on its dig to Hanson Trust, which predicted that the Globe's total foundations might occupy an area 80 feet in diameter.

There is reason to doubt the accuracy of that figure, and therefore the accuracy of the area scheduled. Consequently, more digging to verify the precise extent of the surviving foundations is an urgent priority.

The radar scan was proposed as a quick and painless way of verifying the location and full extent of the remains. Hanson's decision to keep its findings secret is worrying because it seems to indicate that there is something dangerous in them to Hanson's interests.

The remains of the Globe, and what they can tell us about the shape of Shakespeare's theatre, are a national and an international treasure. Secrecy over a matter of such world-wide concern is extraordinary.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW GURR,
University of Reading,
Department of English Language and Literature,
Whiteknights,
Reading, Berkshire,
June 5.

Canterbury succession

From Dr J. D. Lambert

Sir, Letters from the Reverend P. E. Ursell (May 18) and the Reverend D. J. Ellis (May 25) on the Apostles casting lots to elect Matthias into the vacancy left by Judas Iscariot call to mind the eminent and beloved Oxford theologian, Dr Austin Farrer, who left Trinity to become Warden of Keble at St Matthias Day (February 24), 1960.

It was Dr Farrer's habit to scribble frivolous poems during meetings. On receiving the news of his appointment to Keble he wrote (Biography, *A Hawk Among Sparrows*, Philip Curtis, SPCK, 1985):

Quoth Peter, Our economist
Has burst under in the midst,
Now who can tell if we should trust
To good Matthias or to Justus?

Between the even and the odd
Seek we the arbiter of God.
They cast the die: Heaven ruled the bias

Up came the odd: and tipped
Matthias.

Though no one could have meant it,
he
Turned out a pure nonentity.
And simply vanished in the blue
With Thaddeus and Bartholomew.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES LAMBERT,
Trinity College,
Oxford,
May 25.

Neutral gender

From the Headmistress of Lady Margaret School

Sir, I was soundly reprimanded by an Ilea inspector for addressing my pupils as "girls". She told me that by doing this I was "perpetuating their gender differences" and that the authority did not approve of this.

I gently pointed out that the gender differences of my girls had been decided by an even greater authority than that which sat at County Hall. She did not see the joke.

Yours faithfully,
JOAN S. R. OLIVIER,
Headmistress,
Lady Margaret School,
Parson's Green, SW6,
June 2.

Rushdie commitment

From the President of the English Centre of International PEN

Sir, Your diatribe asks (June 1), "Is the commitment of the literary world to the Rushdie cause beginning to wane?" and then goes on to cite what he or she considers evidence to support an affirmative answer.

If anything, the commitment of English writers to have the death sentence on Salman Rushdie lifted is stronger than ever. Three weeks ago, at an International PEN Congress in Madeira, I put before the assembly a proposal that all 101 PEN centres around the world sign a statement condemning the death sentence on Mr Rushdie. This was accepted unanimously and is now in the process of being put into effect. I also argued that linking Salman Rushdie's plight to the fate of the

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5946.

Seeking a different role for Nato

From Mr Frank Blackaby

Sir, Why is it so difficult to get some Western politicians to think new thoughts about Nato? Nato is an anti-Soviet military alliance — albeit a defensive one. It was set up, as Denis Healey has said, when all that the Soviet Army needed to reach the Atlantic was boots. It is addressed to a single threat — of a Soviet attack on Western Europe.

Since it is now generally accepted that the Soviet threat has gone, Nato has lost its *raison d'être*. The founders of Nato, if they were alive, would be happy to accept that this was so; they always envisaged Nato as a temporary arrangement.

There are two dominant requirements for the new security structure which we need in Europe: it should be pan-European, and it should bring the Soviet Union in. There is no justification any longer for treating the USSR as a *pariah state*.

Obviously the new structure should include Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia; but it would be a terrible folly to try to incorporate them into an anti-Soviet alliance. At present Nato guarantees assistance to Germany if there were an attack from Poland. Why should we not guarantee assistance to Poland if there were an attack from Germany? We did it before.

Every European state (except Albania) has signed the Stockholm declaration in 1986 abjuring the threat or use of force in its relations with any other European state. That should now be put into treaty form, with the addition of article four from the North Atlantic Treaty.

The parties will consult together whenever, in the opinion of any of them, the territorial integrity, political independence or security of any of the parties is threatened.

We have the chance now of constructing a Europe without an enemy, and releasing for co-operative purposes the vast sums now wasted on a pointless and dangerous military confrontation. An anti-Soviet alliance can have no part in this new construction.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK BLACKABY,
9 Feintman Road, SW8,
June 1.

Landscape protection

From the Director General of the National Trust

Sir, I should like the opportunity to reply to Gavin Smith's letter (May 30). The Devil's Punchbowl near Hindhead, Surrey, is an area of lowland heath which is internationally significant and designated as a site of special scientific interest.

The prime consideration for the National Trust here, as at all its countryside properties, is the protection of the landscape. In order to achieve this the trust is constantly looking at ways of improving its conservation management.

The employment of additional countryside staff to undertake essential conservation work and ensure a high standard of public

Romanian elections

From Mr Robert N. Wareing, MP for Liverpool, West Derby (Labour)

Sir, Mrs Jessica Douglas-Home's attack (May 25) on Edwina Currie's alleged naivety in respect of the Romanian elections is grossly unfair. As the other member of the team representing the British group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, I can vouch for the fact that in Bucharest, Timisoara, Lipova and numerous villages we visited, there was not a glimmer of intimidation or fear.

On the contrary, there was an air of new-born freedom and people queuing (in a carnival atmosphere) to vote. What does Mrs Douglas-Home expect us to say? That there was intimidation when we saw none? That fear was in the faces of the voters when all we met was a people enthusiastic to exercise their franchise? We were in Romania to look objectively at what we saw.

Of course, it was not all perfection in Romania. There was, however, nothing sinister in anything we saw. Mr Ilescu's majority was conclusive.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT N. WAREING,
House of Commons, SW1.

Polluted fish

From the Director General of the British Safety Council

Sir, Of course I'm genuinely sorry to read that the livelihood of 60 Scarborough boatmen is threatened (report, May 31) because lobsters, crabs and other shellfish have been badly polluted. But I'm tempted to ask what were all the citizens of Scarborough doing in 1970 (and since) when, concerned with workers returning from UK holiday resorts with "upset tummies", we published a list of Britain's filthy beaches. I don't remember anything other than abuse from Scarborough citizens when I photographed the solid untreated sewage pouring from the short outfall back in 1970, in which holidaymakers were expected to bathe.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES TYE,
Director General,
British Safety Council,
National Safety Centre,
Chancellor's Road, W6,
June 1.

More names for Channel train

From Mr L. O. Tench

Sir, The conventional sources of Greek or Minoan mythology being fraught with danger — the Labyrinth is clearly unacceptable as the Minotaur too frightening — one is reduced to "alphanumeric" names for the cross-Channel train (Diary, May 24; letters, May 28, 31, June 4).

Wholly numerical solutions such as the 2000, could have unfortunate connotations in the UK of cost over-runs, or the day when the link might finally be ready. One is led, therefore, to the predominantly alphabetical. It has been Europe: the French has the TGV, Austria the Neue Bahn, the IC, the IC, Germany the ICE and Launa projects, Italy the ETR 450, Spain the TAV and Sweden the X2.

Whatever the name chosen, it is certain to have pages of unfavourable comment written about and eventually be banned from France.

Yours faithfully,
L. O. TENCH,
St Michael's Road, Stramshall, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire.

From Dr Joan M. Burrell

Sir, May I suggest Ariel, remembering his ability to put a girder round the Earth in 40 minutes? Yours truly,

JOAN M. BURRELL,
40 Victoria Street, Aberdeen.

From Mr R. H. Williamson

Sir, Stephenson would be pleased if it was called the Sea Rocket. Yours faithfully,

R. H. WILLIAMSON,
21 Onslow Road, Burwood Park, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

From Mr H. W. Winter

Sir, Mrs Harding (May 28) suggests Hermes, as denoting divine dependable communication service; but Hermes was also patron of glib tricksters, swindlers and thieves, and he shepherd souls to Hades.

Yours truly,
H. W. WINTER,
Clenston, Main Street, Chideock, Dorset.

From Mr Philip Hanson

Sir, The Golden Fleecy? Yours faithfully,
PHILIP HANSON,
Byways, Chacombe Lane, Lansdown, Avon.

From Mr Simon Brock

Sir, Despite the French ban on English beef, the most appropriate name could still be the Great Train.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON BROCK,
Grange Lodge, Grange Lane, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire.

From Mr John Yarnell

Sir, The beautiful silver train which connected London and Edinburgh in the thirties was appropriately called Silver Link. Yours faithfully,

JOHN YARNELL,
4 Gillian Avenue,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.

From Mrs Gwendoline H. Webster

Sir, Marvel: what it will be it ever gets to be. Yours faithfully,
GWENDOLINE H. WEBSTER,
31 Post's Walk, Walsner, Deal, Kent.

From Mr Peter Jones

Sir, Bluebird, as in the record-breaking cars and boats of a Campbell family, sounds fast and British. It also recalls the famous French Blue Train.

Yours faithfully,
PETER JONES,
20 The Warren, Charnbridge, Chesham, Buckinghamshire.

From Dr A. W. R. Thom

Sir, I propose Ulysses: "Hæu, qui, comme Ulysse, a fait un beau voyage." Yours faithfully,

A. W. R. THOM,
24 Marina Court,
Alfred Street, Bow, E3.

From Dr J. M. Jessiman

Sir, I wonder whether British Rail would prefer to shoot across the Channel peacefully, if colourfully with The Trainbow (which might just double as Le Trainbeau in the return trip).

Yours faithfully,
J. M. JESSIMAN,
17 Grange Drive,
Chislehurst, Kent.

From Mr John Uzzell Edwards

Sir, Brunel. Yours truly,
JOHN UZZELL EDWARDS,
Pias Coedfawr, Rhiwawr, Swansea, West Glamorgan.

From Mrs Hilary Mactutus

Sir, As Kent stands to suffer the most disfigurement and disruption as a result of the new service, what about naming it, in recompense, after the graceful ebbler of our fair county, Invidia? Yours faithfully,

HILARY MACTUTUS,
Fairlawn, Maidstone Road, Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent.

From Mr Tom Fitzpatrick

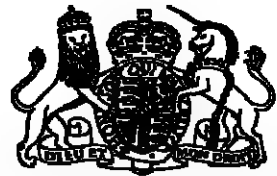
Sir, Can it be anything other than The Mole? Nobody knows where or where it will come up again, what to do about it if it does. Yours faithfully,

TOM FITZPATRICK,
15 Western Road, Newick, Nr Lewes, East Sussex.

From Mr E. J. Nickson

Sir, Network South-East, West Electric, Thameslink: to the occasional passenger, interested in the time of departure and how long it takes and trying to make sense of the timetable (where names do not help much), it seems like some irrelevant internal game played by BR managers. Why does the cross-Channel service have to be called anything?

Yours sincerely,
E. J. NICKSON,
31 Lowfield Road, W3.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 5: The Prince of Wales, Vice Patron, attended a Board Meeting of the British Council at 10 Spring Gardens, SW1.

His Excellency Señor Mario Campora was received in audience by the Queen and presented his Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Argentine Republic to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy: Señor Domingo Cullen (Minister Plenipotentiary), Señor Manuel Benítez de Castro (Counsellor), Señora Liliana dos Reis (Counsellor), Señor Iván Ivanisovich (First Secretary), Señor Claudio Rojo (Second Secretary), Señora Adriana Trujillo (Third Secretary), Señor Alejandro Massucco (Second Secretary).

Señora Campora was received by Her Majesty.
Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs) and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir Michael Quinlan (Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence) was received by the Queen.
Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk was received by the Queen when Her Majesty invested her with the insignia of a Lady Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Master, attended the Annual Court Meeting and Lunch, at Trinity House.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, attended a reception at St James's Palace this evening.

Major Sir Guy Acland, Bt, Captain Alastair Rogers, RM, and Captain Michael Hutchings were in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the Derby at Epsom at 12.45. The Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will also attend.

The Prince of Wales, as President, will chair the meeting of the General Council of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London (The King's Fund) at 21 Palace Court, W2, at 11.00; will open the project, jointly developed by the Newton Housing Group and the City and Hackney Health Authority, at Mothers' Square, Hackney, at 1.15; and, as President of Business in the Community and the Prince of Wales Advisory Group on

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 5: The Prince of Wales, Vice Patron, attended a Board Meeting of the British Council at 10 Spring Gardens, SW1.

Mr Peter Westmacott was in attendance.
The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, attended a meeting at the TUC National Educational Centre, Crouch End Hill, N8.

Mr Guy Salter was in attendance.
The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Youth Business Trust, attended a dinner to launch the Trust's Community Appeal at Kensington Palace State Apartments, W8.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, Turning Point, attended a charity gala at Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, EC1.

Miss Alexandra Lloyd, Mr Richard Arbitr and Lieutenant Commander Patrick Jephson, RN were in attendance.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present this evening at a Gala Performance of "Le Corsaire" by the Kirov Ballet, held at the London Coliseum in aid of the Sportsman's Aid Society.

The Hon Mrs Whitehead was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

June 5: The Duchess of Kent this afternoon attended a Service of Thanksgiving to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Little Sisters of the Poor and visited their Home for the Elderly at St Peter's, Meadow Road, South Lambeth, London SW8.

Mrs Julian Tomkins was in attendance.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent this evening attended a Dinner given by The Premier of New South Wales and Mrs Greiner at St James's Palace, 100, Whitehall, London EC4.

Mrs Alan Henderson and Mr Andrew Palmer were in attendance.

Disability, will attend a reception at the Inn on the Park Hotel at 6.30.

The Princess of Wales, as President of the Royal Marsden Hospital, will lay the foundation stone of a new clinical block at the hospital in Fulham Road at 10.45; and will attend the launch of the Newton Housing Group and the City and Hackney Health Authority, at Mothers' Square, Hackney, at 1.15; and, as President of Business in the Community and the Prince of Wales Advisory Group on

The Duchess of Kent will visit the Bristol Cyrenians, 1 New Street, St James, at 11.20; as Patron of the Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood Trust, will visit their headquarters, 3 Nugent Hill, Croydon, at 12.30; and visit the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, Theatre Royal, at 2.40.

Admiral Sir Frank Hopkins

A Memorial Service for the late Admiral Sir Frank Hopkins, KCB, DSO, DFC, will be held in RNC Greenwich, on Tuesday, June 26, at 14.30. Attendance will be by ticket only, obtainable from the Flag Officer Naval Aviation, RNAS Yeovilton, Bechtel, Somerset BA22 8HL.

Molly Montgomery

A service of celebration for the life of Molly Montgomery, OBE, Hon FRIBA, will be held on Thursday, July 5, (her birthday) at 11.30 am at the Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London.

Memorial service

His Honour W.D.M. Sumner, A Memorial Service for His Honour Donald Sumner was held yesterday at Wyke Parish Church, Dorset. D.I. Bilton officiated. Judge Christopher Sumner and Mr Robert Sumner, sons, read the lessons and His Honour Joseph Dean gave an address.

Luncheon

The Australian High Commissioner was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon arranged by the Mid-Atlantic Club yesterday at Dartmouth House. Sir Peter Marshall, Chairman of the Commonwealth Trust, presided.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.J.G. Bilton and Miss A.E. Wood. The engagement is announced between Anton, eldest son of Mr G.D.E. Bilton, of Monte Carlo, Monaco, and Miss A.E. Wood, daughter of Mr and Mrs W.L. Wood, of Monte Carlo, Monaco.

Mr C.L.E. Boschenial and Miss C.M. O'Brien. The engagement is announced between Giuseppe Lupo, son of Mr and Mrs L. Boschenial, of Florence, Italy, and Camille, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. O'Brien, of Detroit, USA.

Mr R.W. Bourne and Miss J. Akamatsu. The engagement is announced between Robert William, elder son of Sir Wilfrid and Lady Bourne, of Ramsdell, Hampshire, and Miss J. Akamatsu, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Akamatsu, of Niigata.

Mr P.E. Damotte and Miss S.C. Lee. The engagement is announced between Philippe, son of M and Mme Pierre Damotte, of Besancon, France, and Susie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Lee, of Wrea Green, Lancs, and New Delhi, India.

Mr R.A. Gille-Cole and Miss V.E. Edwards. The engagement is announced between Ivo, elder son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Gille-Cole, of Park Cottage, Ballingh, Isle of Man, and Miss V.E. Edwards, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Edwards, of 37 Oakley Gardens, London, and the late Mrs Jennifer Graham.

Mr P.E. Gerrard and Miss C.L. Liddell. The marriage took place on June 1, at the church of Our Lady of Lourdes and St Thomas of Canterbury, Harrow on the Hill, between Peter Keith, son of Mr and Mrs Keith Gerrard and Charlotte Lucy, daughter of Mr Edward Liddell and the late Mrs Susan Liddell.

Mr D. Shadden and Miss K. Imrie. The marriage took place in London, on May 24, 1990, of Mr David Shadden and Miss Kate Imrie.

Mr G.A. Winstanley and Miss S.A.N. Mair. The marriage took place on Tuesday, June 5, at St Peter's English Church, Siena, between Mr Geoffrey Wheatcroft, elder son of Mrs S.F. Wheatcroft, of Park Walk, Chelsea, London, and the late Mrs Wheatcroft, and Miss Sally Mair, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Mair, of Anners, Thorpe, Egham, Surrey. The Ven George Westwell officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Ruth Hamann and Daniel Gough. Mr Tobias Rodgers was best man.

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OBITUARIES

JON AKASS



John Ewart Akass, columnist and journalist, died of cancer aged 56 on June 4. He was born on July 16, 1933.

JON Akass was for more than 30 years one of Fleet Street's most gifted individual writers, his work distinguished both by his style and his highly personal opinions. The Christian name was adopted after a sub-editor's error early in his career. The surname, he fancied, originated from Armenia; he once met a New York restaurant owner, an Armenian with the same name, and was much taken by the notion that the Akasses had been clever and shrewd enough to survive centuries of persecution at the hands of Turks, Azerbaijanis and other hostile neighbours. The truth was less romantic: he was, he subsequently discovered, descended from a long line of North London upholsterers called Aketh.

Jon Akass had been walking around having opinions, as he put it, for longer than most. Born and educated in Bedford, he had his first job in newspapers in the London office of *The Glasgow Herald* and after national service in the RAF, where he learned typing and shorthand, he landed a job on a paper in Lincoln, omitting to mention his Fleet Street experience as a teaboy.

In 1958, working in the Manchester office of *The Daily Herald*, he filed a front page story on the Munich Air Disaster. The quality of his writing impressed his masters in Fleet Street and he was summoned to London to write a column four days a week. He was 24 years old.

Akass worried that his youth and the extent of his journalistic travels (he had journeyed no further than the provinces) left him ill equipped to write an opinionated column. He asked for, and was granted, the chance to travel. The Biafran war, the Congo, three Middle East conflicts, the Eichmann trial, US presidential elections, the assassination of Bobby Kennedy and expulsion from South Africa followed.

He served throughout hostilities, and for two years afterwards, in the Royal Fusiliers. He won the Military Cross for his courage and leadership during the final crossing of the Rhine in 1945.

In that action he was gravely wounded, shot directly through the chest. Part of a lung had to be removed, and he was lucky to live. His family recall with relief his reported words as the bullet struck him: "Oh blast! I've been killed." Fortunately he was wrong, and what he then did, despite his severe

wounds, to secure the safety of his men in the face of heavy enemy fire, led directly to his MC.

He remained in the Army until 1947, and in the following year he was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple. At the Bar his practice flourished mainly in the industrial injuries field. Indeed such was his prowess that he became the learned editor of "Redgrave", the lawyer's Bible on these matters, a task he continued to undertake until the end of his life. In 1965 he became a County Court Judge, and sat on the bench for nearly 20 years.

The Bar is often seen as an aloof profession; the Bench even more so. Many judges relish being removed from the common herd, on the grounds that their work makes it difficult for them to mingle. Jon Akass showed this to be a total nonsense. His warm compassion as a Judge reflected his close involvement in all facets of his local community, and all sorts and conditions of men and women within it. His judicial qualities marked him out for leadership

in everything he did. He worked hard for his local community. He was a founder member of the Putney Society in 1960, and welded it into one of the most effective community groups of its kind in the country. No one did more than he to ensure that Putney is not just another anonymous London suburb, but a proper community.

In all he did he was supported by his wife, Pauline, herself as active as he in the local community. He is survived by her and by their two sons and two daughters.

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ART LUND

Art Lund, actor and one of the most popular baritones of the Big Band era, died aged 75 in Salt Lake City, Utah, on June 2 of liver cancer. He was born in the same town on April 1, 1925.



STANDING at well over six feet, with blond hair and rugged good looks, Art Lund had a substantial career in America in films as well as on stage and television. He will be remembered above all, though, for his recording of "Blue Skies", a world-wide hit during the 1940s. This together with "My Blue Heaven" and "Mam'elle" became the foundation of a career that had begun in the late 1930s with the Benny Goodman Band.

He was a student singing in small bands when he came to Goodman's attention. After a successful audition he changed his name - he had been born Arthur London - and went on the road with the Goodman's swing band. Lund joined the US Navy in 1942, returning to the band after four years of service in the South Pacific. Acting, especially in musicals, was the next step. He appeared out of town in *Wonderful Town* (1955) and on Broadway first in the early 1950s in an adaptation of John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. He was seen in touring companies across America in productions of *Fiorello*, *No Strings* and *Destiny Rides Again*. He was the original Joey in the 1956 Broadway hit musical *The Most Happy Fella*, the Frank Loesser adaptation of *They*

public attention in Italy with *Hilarotragedia* in 1964. This was also the year of the publication of the noisy manifesto of Gruppo 63 - who called themselves, and were, a "new literary generation". The Group declared, in tones which reminded many of the Futurists of 50 years before, that literature would be solely concerned with experiments in form rather than in subject matter. Thus *Hilarotragedia*, an irreverent monologue, is as phenomenological as any of the Italian novels which appeared in that highly experimental decade, and, when the period is reappraised, it will take its place in the forefront along with such works as Sanguineti's *Gioco dell'oca* (1967) and Leonetti's *Tappeto volante* (also 1967).

Manganelli published, in 1967, an influential volume of essays, *Literatura come monologo* (Literature as a Lie) in which he boldly pronounced his theory of literature as "non social", provoking and mystifying. He thus lined himself up with the extreme avant garde, refusing to concede an iota to the popular taste for "stories", and providing only what was in his eyes philosophically justified. This went down well in literary circles in France, and even influenced a few American modernists; unfortunately it led English publishers to neglect him. Manganelli was also a gifted translator of Poe.

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On her return the

[illegible][illegible]

Is it possible that women drink simply because they like it? Jane Ellison calls time on the sociologists

Girls just want to have fun

I was reading one of those irresistible surveys about drink the other day, the ones which show you just how many glasses of wine or double whiskeys other people claim to drink a day, and how bad it is for you. Are they really telling the truth? Do they really drink so little? Do I really drink so much?

But then I am a woman, and thus something of a problem to the sociologists who put these mysterious surveys together. The statistics for male and female drinking are neatly tabulated in elegant columns, and there is always a picture of me. Sometimes I am shrouded in tactful, anonymous shadow, hunched over a half-empty bottle; sometimes I am represented by an artist's drawing, as I gaze into a glass while a toddler regards me imploringly. Women, it seems, do not just go out and have a drink, like men do. Women "drink". They have a funny "relationship" with their bottle of wine that men do not have with their pint. More than 14 units a week, and we have a "drink problem". More than 21 and we are advised to go and see a specialist.

Why do women "drink"? Because they like a glass of wine or a gin and tonic? No, that's far too simple. The question occupies an important area of sociological research. Almost every week there are detailed new studies of the relationship between women and alcohol, predicting that today's publishing director or marketing manager will be tomorrow's casualty. Last week a health department conference was told that "... they [women] do appear to be drinking more like men as they achieve greater equality". It's a short step for these wretched women from the boardroom Chardonnay to the cardboard box at Waterloo Station. Having fought men to acquire executive power and responsibility, the theory goes, women continue to fight them over a crowded bar. That's right - they're just forcing themselves to swallow all those glasses of scotch in order to keep up with the men.

Seriously? For more than four years I was employed by *Private Eye* in a job whose main requirement was to put in long hours at the Coach and Horses in Soho. From our dark and dismal corner by the lavatories we looked out on a world of male drinkers - melancholy, exuberant, or tired and emotional. Amid the

foaming pints, the vodkas and whiskeys, among those wild-eyed toppers, flushed and excited or shedding tears of self-pity, there was, frankly, no one with whom I felt obliged to compete. I did not push my way aggressively to the bar with a cry of "This one's on me, boys!" I did not swallow down my gin as I saw the pint glasses draining. I just drank because I wanted a drink.

Women drink for all the same reasons that men drink. They might drink at lunch because they like good wine; they might reach for a bottle as they put the children to bed; they might sip a whisky as they read a book. Their lives are made more pleasant and endurable by alcohol. What's so surprising about that? Why should they, any more than men, be asked to justify the reasons why they like a drink?

Consider the example of Henry, a pacy young advertising director who regularly comes home after his arduous day's work longing for a drink. His family commiserates. His children frolic quietly at his feet. The nanny places a triple measure of vodka and lime in his glass. Later, his wife considerably refills it. Things are not so pleasant for his neighbour, Candida, also, by chance, a pacy young advertising director. She too comes home longing for a drink, before taking on the burden of quality time with the children and preparing a Marks & Spencer supper. She goes to pour herself a vodka, but stops guiltily, remembering the wine she drank at lunchtime and the modest half-bottle of champagne with a client after work. She has read all the alarming reports in the papers. Can she allow herself another drink? In the end, she pours a small one, its magical soothing effects quite ruined by the burden of guilt she is carrying.

What if men can drink nine pints a day of the amber nectar without sustaining any adverse effects? Is this supposed to make us all determined to go one better with the lager (non-drivers only, it goes without saying)? Forget the surveys. Most people, I suspect, lie dramatically about the amount they drink anyway. Go on. Pour yourself a drink. Make it a double. Enjoy it.

● Another Little Drink by Jane Ellison is published by Arena at £3.99



More than a match for the men: Mae Murray in *Circus The Enchantress* (1924)

& BRIEFLY

Art for play's sake

THE average art exhibition is a hands-off affair, so no wonder children are bored by them. But Glasgow's Art Machine, billed as "the biggest ever art show for kids", features specially commissioned works which can be handled, climbed on, altered and "brought alive" by visitors. The exhibition will run until August 26 at the McLellan Galleries, Sauchiehall Street, 10am-5pm Monday to Saturday (10pm Thursdays), noon-6pm Sundays.

Creaking bones

THE dinosaurs are on the move in the Natural History Museum, thanks to some very high technology created by the Japanese Kokoro company, which has made it possible for 10 model dinosaurs to move and roar. The dinosaur gallery will come to life tomorrow (until November 8) with its giant inhabitants moving by compressed air, controlled by computer. Not for the faint-hearted.

Hat dance

A BIG-brimmed straw hat is the summer's indispensable accessory for sunburn protection with style. Yet they are impossible to pack, and ridiculous to wear while travelling. One clever solution is the "Pocket Panama" available from The Orvis Co, The Mill, Nether Wallop, Stockbridge, Hampshire SO20 8ES (0264 781212), purveyors of polo shirts, breeks, fishermen's smocks, "sporting tattersalls" and other accessories for outdoor sports.

Venerable bead

A LAVISH new *Complete Book of Beads* (£12.99) will be launched by Dorling Kindersley tomorrow evening in the book department of Liberty, famous for its beaded jewellery and a good source of some of the materials suggested and shown by the co-edited and shown by the authors, Janet Coles and Robert Budwig. Unusual beads will be on sale and display in both the book department and the jewellery department of the Regent Street store for two weeks, to complement the book.

Ceramic fans

CONNOISSEURS of fine ceramics or those who are simply potty about pottery should visit the International Ceramics Fair and Seminar which opens this Friday at the Park Lane Hotel in London, and runs until Monday June 11. Admission is £5 and lectures are an additional £7 each. The ICFS Booking Office is at 38 Burlington Gardens, Old Bond Street, London W1X 1LE (071-734 5491).

VICTORIA MCKEE

Getting a kick out of Italy

Football fan Jane Nottage's PR skills helped her become a vital part of the World Cup organizing committee



Over the moon: Jane Nottage and the World Cup symbol

The most agonising World Cup final for Jane Nottage would be an England-Italy clash, pitting the country of her birth against the one she adopted almost five years ago.

"Of course I adore England," she says, "but I just love the way the Italians live, the food, the wine, the climate. Their style seems so much more pleasurable, and easier."

There is nothing particularly easy about Miss Nottage's current lifestyle. As the only English person on the organizing committee of Italia '90 (the World Cup co-ordinating body) and one of only two women in the press office, she is at the heart of the media maelstrom, liaising between the players and the pack one minute, appearing on television to comment on the arrest of fans the next.

The pleasure, however, is evident. She is an avid football fan who will see at least 60 per cent of the matches, including the final; moreover, she confesses she rather likes "being surrounded by all these men. It's so nice to be the centre of attention. The only child in me really loves that."

At the moment she is in Sardinia for England's first matches. Before that she was in Rome writing press releases, organizing interviews and double-checking translations. Five thousand of the 7,000 accredited press are for non-Italians, and about three-quarters of them have English as a first or second language, hence the importance, she says, of "not making translation gaffes".

The job has so far proved a happy marriage between her love of the game and her love of the country. The former began during her career in public relations - one of her clients was Sharp Electronics, which sponsors Manchester United - the latter arose out of a curious combination of circumstances.

"I was doing very well in PR but I felt bored. I was fed up with the Friday-night-down-the-pub syndrome, although I suppose you could say now it's Friday night down the trattoria." She decided to take off for Mexico, to write freelance articles about the pre-World Cup matches in 1985. The trip coincided with the Haysel Stadium disaster, and everyone wanted articles about the Italian. On her return she found

that her former fiancé, with whom she had remained friends, was now living in Rome, as was her best friend. "It really seemed for me as if all roads led to Rome."

Once there she continued freelancing, writing a column for *World Soccer*, and working on a "family saga" novel called *The Italians*, which will be published by Random House in August.

The Italian football world does not find her such a curiosity as the English one. "I mean, Bobby Robson still apologizes if he swears in front of me. Here, though, women are far more interested in football, it's more of a family thing. And there's a women's football league. But it's still an incredibly masculine world. Maybe in 20 years it will be different."

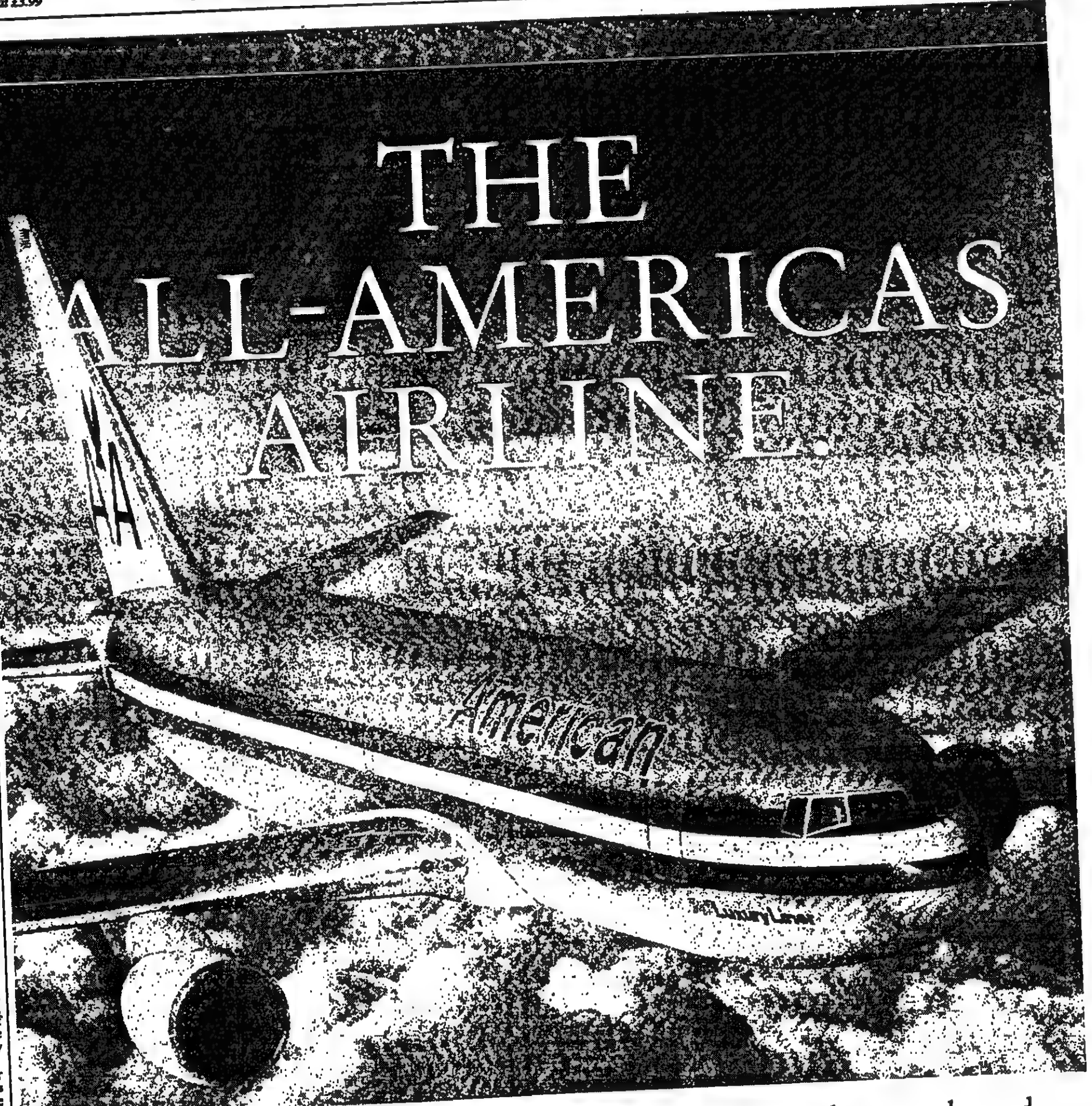
She loves both the atmosphere at big matches - "it's like a carnival, it's incredibly emotional" - and the skill of the top players. "That level of control is as amazing as a ballet dancer's." She also likes the players: "I don't think they're as egotistical as, say, golfers or tennis players, because it's a team sport. If one gets too selfish he gets the mickey taken out of him by the rest."

Although she counts her first visit to the Juventus dressing-room as one of the memorable moments of her life, Miss Nottage says that at 35 she no longer regards footballers as sex objects.

Non-playing Italian men are a different matter. "Englishmen treat you as if you are on the same level, but Italian men treat you as a woman. People say, though, that they make wonderful lovers but lousy husbands. They're incredibly vain about their appearance and they expect their wives to arrange their wardrobes in colour order. I don't even do that to my own wardrobe. At the same time it's nice to walk down the street with someone who isn't wearing a beer-stained T-shirt."

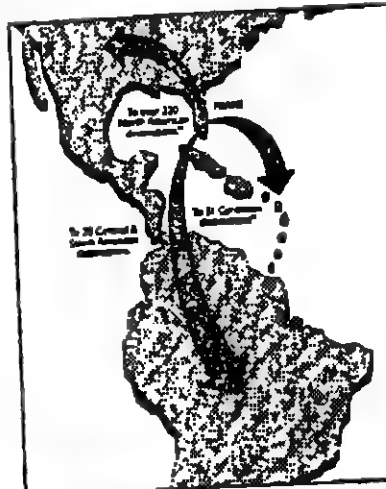
Once the job has ended, she plans to stay on in Rome, "write another book, get married and live happily after ever".

LEZ GILL



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MEDIA

Off to the land of the beleaguered

The final stages of the Banff Television Festival offer a chance to examine the quality of an international light. The British are well represented, with more than half the entries still standing in comedy, over a third in drama, and a healthy sprinkling in most forms of documentary. In terms of quantity, then, a preliminary hurdle is easily cleared.

Thereafter the going gets harder. Comedy favourites fall under the stony gaze of an international jury extending from Belgium to Australia, from Japan to Finland. Much of the British drama also disappoints, being seen as narrow navel-gazing. (Chanel Four's *Traffic* is held to be a notable exception.) Nor does it go unremarked that documentaries have little to reveal about life in modern Britain, save for the regular tribulations of Northern Ireland. Still, given that the prevailing theology holds that there is no such thing as society, small wonder that we fail to find fresh ways of reporting and reflecting it.

Even so, the British are well in line to maintain their average of picking up around a third of the awards when they are handed out on Friday. And Banff has already thrown in a special salute to the BBC's Natural History Unit over the years. Then, more informally, judges when asked by the local newsletter to name a company or country they admired, mostly pointed in the British direction.

Hard-boiled critics will see most of this as ritualized flag-waving, of sideline relevance as the great lava-flows of programming push out channel after channel the world over. And in a sense they are right. A more representative festival might choose to give special study to basic television, as it puddles out around the clock: often Truly Awful Television but dominant, as one day a TATV Festival may recognize.

And this is where the argument about quality in television gets messy. In the arts elsewhere there is a wide measure of agreement. If Jeremy Isaacs serves up too many easy-on-the-ear operas, if Richard Eyre plays safe with the National Theatre repertoire, if Nick Serota fails continually to freshen the face of the Tate, then a howl goes up from aficionados, and goes up fast. No such consensus obtains in television. We armchair aficionados may grumble about summer repeats, about an increasing baldness in the schedules, but rarely would such grumbling lead to positive thoughts about what should be done.

In particular the idea that, for tele-

vision to get better, producers need to be afforded more room and more resources in which to roam and experiment finds little echo either among the public, or — these days — among the management. So, many at Banff wear a beleaguered look, as they try to hang on to the belief in themselves as professionals in what is increasingly regarded worldwide as a mere business.

Anxiety and ambivalence show up most clearly in the matter of co-venture or co-production. For the British, the days are long gone when Huw Wheldon would describe the ground-rules of BBC co-funding as "You pay; we make". Nowadays everyone is in the same boat, all desperate for additional funds, many apprehensive about the programme outcome of the co-funding approach, in the end possibly satisfying no one.

Some of course — and among them the more youthful elements — plunge in with relish, on the grounds that there is in truth no alternative. For them the venture itself almost becomes the prize, irrespective of quality. So the argument has been heard that a drama of less than

total conviction should be awarded an extra A for effort, in part for its enterprise in marrying, however improbably, the talents of the Japanese with those of the Czechs.

Yet, for all that co-production is a double-edged weapon, it would be unwise to sneer. Around the world governments turn a blind eye to broadcasting's clear market fragility, arising from an absence of a natural point of sale, and casually imperil established funding arrangements. Broadcasters by way of response seek to pull and pool together. One consequence is that in the ever-shifting league table of television esteem, the international deal-makers now rank on par with the accountants. Soon they may pull ahead, for there is small value in tidying up costing mechanisms only to find that you still lack the wherewithal to scale the heights.

But back in the quality corral, the evidence from Banff seems to be that the palm will go for the most part to programmes confidently made from a national tradition, quirks and all. The internationally-flavoured enterprises have yet to attain a consistent standard and possibly never will. That being so, the international deal-makers should stop and ponder the local excellence on display here, and then ring up the schedulers back home to see if it can be given a prompt and wider airing.

BROADCAST

Brian Wenham



Fact and fiction: Arthur Hailey (centre) with John Suchet (left) and Sir David Nicholas. ITN figured in research for Mr Hailey's new book.

Networking the news

Will ITN, as it is transformed into a profit-making company, end up like Arthur Hailey's fictional network? Andrew Lycett reports

Arthur Hailey's mythical CBA network, they call it the Horseshoe. At ABC, it is the Fishbowl, at NBC the Rim and at NBC the Desk. At ITN, the elongated table where the best-selling author is describing his latest book, *The Evening News*, to *News At One* presenter John Suchet, does not have a nickname. That is one difference between the American news networks and Britain's main independent news "provider" (to use the language of the Broadcasting Bill, which had its second reading in the House of Lords yesterday). An ITN journalist ascribes this to the lack of theatricality: "We're a news organization and always have been."

With the passage of the Bill later this year, however, ITN's protected status as the news-gathering arm of independent television will change. ITN must divest 51 per cent of its equity, which is held by the ITV companies, to outside shareholders. It is going through a radical corporate transformation, from a service with a budget to a profit-making company. At the same time, it is preparing to move to its new £80 million building in Gray's Inn Road, in London, later this year.

This is clearly on Mr Suchet's mind when he talks to Mr Hailey. *The Evening News* is the tale of two key employees at CBA, Crawford Sloane, the smooth anchorman, and his rather more craggy rival, Harry Partridge, a top correspondent. When CBA is taken over by Globanc Industries, a conglomerate with defence interests, they find their traditional news values and culture under threat from execu-

tives more interested in profit than truth. It is all good, gripping stuff, with the attention to detail expected of the London-born author of *Airport* and *Hotel*.

Mr Hailey is at ITN because it figured in his year-long research for his book. He refuses to identify the sources of his material; he says only that he visited the big American news networks, travelling abroad with one of them. Others say he spent most time at CBS, and there are identifiable CBS characters in his book.

Without referring specifically to ITN, Mr Suchet says in his pre-interview chat with Mr Hailey that the threat of conglomerates is "something over here we really dread". His first question on air picks up this topic. Do they really influence news in the United States?

"Oh yes," replies the 70-year-old author. "It's happening in real life and there are conflicts of interest."

In conversation, Mr Hailey repeats this line, but is less didactic. He says his primary objective is to tell a story. Like Samuel Goldwyn, he believes the place for messages is Western Union. He argues that, now that they are part of larger organizations, the American news networks are no longer "entities".

With access to 68 satellite channels at home in the Bahamas, he generally admires television news, though. It has brought events, such as the revolutions in Eastern Europe, into viewers' sitting rooms. It has pioneered investigative reporting and stimulated other news media, including the Press. Newspapers now have to be rather more analytical, he feels. He does not see any great difference between British and American news reporting. They both go after the same stories, particularly international news.

But are not American networks more obsessed with personalities, as in their cult of the anchorman? Not really, says Mr Hailey; the public, rather than the networks, created anchormen. He compares them to good newspaper bylines — guarantees of professionalism. Contrary to some observers, he argues that the soft news or "info-tainment" and even the ratings are on the decline. "The important thing is that the hard news is getting through."

The issue of anchormen, or newscasters, as we know them, is topical at ITN as it prepares to replace its traditional presenters, Sir Alastair Burnet and Sandy Gall, with a younger team. The company says no decisions have been made, but after Sir Alastair resigned from the ITN board in February, it was suggested elsewhere that he would not see out the remaining three years of his contract. He had resigned from the board over a

difference of opinion: he supported — and in some quarters is credited as the architect of — the government proposals to sell off 51 per cent of ITN.

Officially, the ITN chairman, Sir David Nicholas, who welcomed Mr Hailey to his news organization's cramped headquarters in London's Wells Street, is as dismissive of the influence of conglomerates in Britain — "they are certainly not taking over here; at least, not yet" — as he is of anchormen: "There is no great evidence that they are responsible for ratings points." He concedes, however, that anchormen may play a role in identifying networked news programmes that in the United States, unlike in Britain, compete for audiences in the same fixed time slots.

As for the ratings themselves, he admits: "There is one American characteristic I would like to see here: that news is an extremely attractive platform for reaching ABCI viewers and therefore for advertising."

Sir David's views reflect the extent his time is taken up converting ITN to a profit centre. His task was not made easier by the recent proposal from his ITV shareholders to hive off the company's property interests. But Sir David has struck back in typically forthright newsmen's style. With the introduction of a new afternoon news bulletin, he is moving closer to his vision of a rolling news programme in the style of Cable News Network. ITN is also about to do sell its programming to a big American cable system. In the not-so-long run, then, British independent news may be getting closer to an American model, but not quite as envisaged by Mr Hailey.

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سكرا من الامم



Jane Procter, editor-designate of the chronicle of high-class high jinks, talks to Alan Franks

Her professional life started when, as a finalist in the *Vogue* Talent Competition, she was offered a job on that magazine and cut short her English studies at the Courtauld Institute's University College to take it. She subsequently worked on a number of magazines, including *Good Housekeeping*, *Woman's Journal* and *Country Life*. "Yes, I seemed to move on," she says. "But the most important thing

"If you look at those back-numbers, they really were wonderful. She [Tina Brown] brought off some truly interesting and original things. Most people in papers and magazines tend to be mediocre. They rush around reading foreign publications and say: 'I've had this really brilliant idea'. When I worked at ... well, let's just say when I worked at a major national supplement, people at conference would have an endless list of ideas, and if



When I spoke to the editor-designate, she was greatly exercised by a suggestion in the Sunday press that she was "the kind of woman who gives women employees a bad

She cites gregariousness as one of her main qualifications for the job, and believes that for an editor to be effective, he or she must be a social animal. Without seeming to brag, she remarks that she has almost total recall of what people were

Jane Procter's Nineties, as laid out in the glossy spreads which she is to oversee, will be more nice than naughty. The party may never quite regain its first innocence, but the *louche* friends-of-friends will melt from the hall. Or else.

the sword, mainly by writing the occasional piece for them.)

As a former *Guardian* news editor, she has seen the hiring business from the other side, and agrees that young journalists need more opportunities

press is Oxbridge dominated," he says. "I started on local newspapers at 15, but here I had a certificate that said I was as good as anyone."

GERALDINE BEDSEL

GERALDINE BEDELL

100

ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES

by Huon Mallalieu

Warming up for the high season

For a writer on antiques, and on the London market in particular, June is the cruelest month of the year. The city is full of wonderful exhibitions, yet we cannot hope to do justice to more than one or two of the many items on offer. It is just as well that New York has taken over as the centre of the art-auction world and one can concentrate on the great summer fairs and dealers' exhibitions.

The first of the fairs, Olympia, which is already running, continues until Sunday. This fair tends to be regarded as a warm-up event for Grosvenor House, but this year, despite the chariness of some of the regular exhibitors, the fair has been expanded to its largest display yet.

The Ceramics Fair and Seminar is at the Park Lane Hotel this year, its ninth, because of the closure of the Dorchester, its regular base. The fair, which opens on Friday and runs until Monday, has a packed schedule of 14 lectures on subjects ranging from the Orient to Limerick and St Cloud to Glasgow, a loan exhibition and 48 dealers from seven countries who make up the fair.

Despite the seeming ex-

clusivity of the title, the fair also includes such neighbouring fields as glass and enamel. This year the loan collection comes from the Stoke-on-Trent Museum, presenting the results of two decades of excavation and research on the 18th-century Staffordshire potters.

Grosvenor House is the showcase for the fair of the year, by the British Antique Dealers' Association, BADA. This time, after a schism which lasted for a decade, the breakaway Burlington House Fair will again be part of the BADA. The fair will be opened by Prince Edward next Wednesday, the private preview day, and will be open to the public from June 14 to 23.

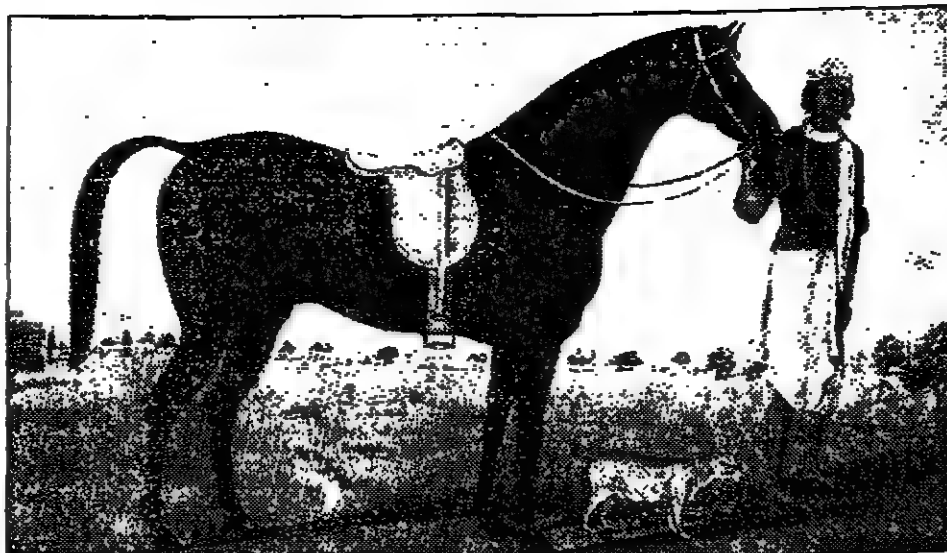
Every year the fair takes a number of overseas dealers to take part. This year it is "Italy

and the grand tour", and 17 members of the Associazione Antiquaria d'Italia will contribute to a stand. The BADA has organized the loan exhibition, which includes a pair of Roman scenes by Canaletto from the collection of the Queen Mother, the fair's patron. Another souvenir of a grand tour is a full-length portrait of Lord Le Despencer, by Anton von Maron, on sale at Spinks' stand.

As always, the range of the fair is immense, from a Roman mosaic panel of fish by "Sosus Pergami, who flourished 320 years before Christ", to an 1848 painting of a Neapolitan breed horse weighing 27 st 3 lb, and from an 8th-century Tang pottery court lady to a silver gilt jardiniere commissioned by Napoleon III in 1866. Furniture, silver, ceramics, tapestries, antiquities, medals, glass, jewels, paintings, prints, drawings, books and musical and scientific instruments will all be on offer.

The combined stock of more than 100 book dealers that will be on offer at the London Antiquarian Book Fair, at the Park Lane Hotel from June 19 to 21—more than 30,000 items in all—will be just as diverse.

With the possible exception of some modern first editions,



On show at Grosvenor House Antiques Fair: an 1845 oil-on-panel by Modern Mistry

books seem cheap by comparison with other collectors' items.

For instance, at £27,500, Quaritch will have the first appearance in print of the traveller Al-Hidrisi's geography, the *Muhtat al-mushtra*, from the famous press of Cardinal Ferdinando Medici in Rome, dated 1592. This is one of the finest and rarest books to be printed in Arabic.

Equally reasonable seems Simon Gough Books' £2,750 for *Tortois, Terrapins and Turtles*, produced with 57 finely coloured plates by Edward Lear and James de C. Sowerby in 1872. The loan exhibition is devoted to the work of Heath Robinson, both the early book illustrations and the contraptions.

There will be several dozen

dealers' exhibitions that will be excellent in their different spheres. There is only space to mention a few.

Trinity Fine Art of London has taken Harari & Johns' gallery in Duke Street, St James's, until June 20 to show a remarkable collection of sculpture, works of art and Italian architectural drawings. Particularly enticing is a bronze of Venus and Adonis by Algardi (1598-1654), at about £750,000.

In Bond Street the shows include one of room settings on the theme of the pen and the sword, or correspondence on campaigns, at W. B. Harris until June 30, and Victorian paintings and sculpture from today until July 20 at Agnews. Almost next door, at Deborah Gage, 38 Old Bond Street, the private dealer John White-

head is showing a splendid collection of 18th-century Sevres porcelain, much of it with royal connections, from tomorrow until June 20.

Eskenazi's show at Foxglove House, 166 Piccadilly, is always one of the greatest pleasures of the summer. This year is no exception. There are remarkable examples of ancient Chinese sculpture. The show is from next Tuesday to July 6. The Bodhisattva by Ganyin, associated with compassion, presides. There will also be imperial gold from ancient China at Oriental Bronzes, 96 Mount Street, from next Wednesday to June 29, and Venetian paintings, 1650 to 1800, at the Walpole Gallery, 38 Dover Street, from next Wednesday to July 20.

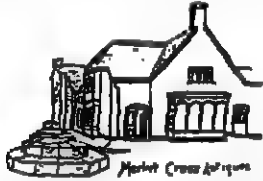
The author is a sale-room correspondent for Country Life.

ON SALE, ON SHOW

Selected events from today to July 4. Auctions usually start at 11am unless otherwise stated — but check before making a special journey:

To June 30: "The Pen & the Sword" show, W. B. Harris, 5 Old Bond Street, W1 (071-499 8385). To June 10: Olympia Fine Art & Antiques Fair (071-370 8234). To June 20: Sculpture, works of art & drawings shown by Trinity Fine Art at Harari & Johns, 12 Duke Street, St James's (071-493 4916). Today-June 29: 20th-century British art show, Spink, King Street, St James's, SW1 (071-930 7888). Today-June 30: British painting exhibition, Ackermann, 33 New Bond Street, W1 (071-493 3288). Today-July 20: Victorian paintings and sculpture, Agnews, Old Bond Street, W1 (071-629 4359). June 7-8: Newton Abbott Antiques & Books Fair, The Racecourse (0364 52182). June 7-20: Exhibition of Sevres Porcelain, John Whitehead at Deborah Gage, 38 Old Bond Street, W1 (081-968 8986). June 8-10: Border Antique Dealers' Fair, Alnwick Castle (0937 832029). June 8-10: Ceramics Fair, Cumberland Hotel, W1 (0634 723461). June 8-11: International Ceramics Fair, Park Lane Hotel, W1 (071-734 5491). June 12: Modern British picture sale, Phillips, Bond Street, W1 (071-629 6602). June 12-July 6: Chinese sculpture exhibition, Eskenazi, Foxglove House, 166 Piccadilly, W1 (071-493 5464). June 13 6pm: Contemporary ceramics sale, Bonhams, Montpelier Street, SW7 (071-584 9161). June 13-June 29: Imperial Gold from Ancient China, Oriental Bronzes Ltd, 96 Mount Street, W1 (071-493 0309). June 13-July 20: Exhibition of Venetian Painting 1650-1800, Walpole Gallery, 38 Dover Street, W1 (071-499 6626). June 14-23: Grosvenor House Antiques Fair, Park Lane, W1 (0799-266999). June 15, 10.30am: Sale of rare auction catalogues, Christie's, 5th Kensington (071-581 7611). June 15-17: Stafford Antiques Fair, Bingley Hall, County Showground (0532 843333). June 15-17: SE Counties Antique Dealers' Fair, 832029). June 19-21: London Antiquarian Book Fair, Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, W1 (071-724 2818). June 20: Agra Diamond in jewel sale, Christie's, King Street, SW1 (071-839 9060). June 21: Atlases & travel books, Sotheby's, Bond Street, W1 (071-493 8080). June 21 1pm: Book of Hours for sale, Bloomsbury Book Auctions, Hardwick Street, EC1 (071-835-2636). June 21 2pm: Scientific instruments sale, Christie's, 5th Kensington. June 22: 19th-century paintings sale, Christie's, King Street, SW1. June 26-July 11: Old Master drawings shown by Karin Bellinger at Harari & Johns (071-381 1324). June 28 2.30pm: Grace Darling's medals, including seven mementoes, Sotheby's, Bond Street, W1 (071-493 8080).

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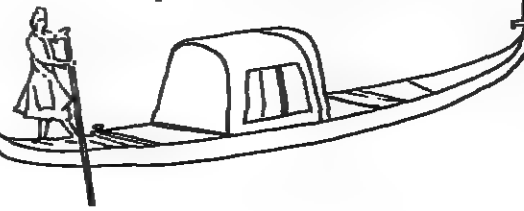
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OPERA

Illustrator Peter
Brookes and Richard
Morrison set the
scene for the Royal
Opera's first
production of
Janáček's opera, *The
Cunning Little Vixen*

Why send a newspaper illustrator to preview an opera? Because this opera, uniquely in the repertoire, was inspired by the work of a newspaper illustrator. The year was 1920. In the Moravian capital of Brno the 66-year-old composer Leoš Janáček was casting around for a subject for his seventh opera, when he heard his servant, one Marie Stejskalová, laughing at something in the Brno daily newspaper, *Lidové Noviny*.

Like most of Brno, she was hooked on "Bystrouska", a strip-cartoon about the adventures of a vixen. It was scripted, rather incongruously, by the paper's law correspondent, Rudolf Těsnohlídek (he was, outside office hours, a respected novelist and children's author) and drawn by Stanislav Lolek.

According to Marie Stejskalová's memoirs, published nearly 40 years later, she told Janáček that the cartoons "would make a marvellous opera". Hindsight is a wonderful thing.

In *The Cunning Little Vixen*, which reached Brno Opera House four years later, Janáček followed Těsnohlídek's story fairly closely.



From the Lolek original



One of Stanislav Lolek's cartoon originals (below, left) contrasts with Peter Brookes' impression (above) of the operatic version

The Vixen is captured by the Forester, creates havoc in a henhouse, escapes, marries a fox, and is shot dead by the Poacher. Meanwhile, the Forester and his equally gloomy companion, the Schoolmaster, sigh in vain over a wild and mysterious gypsy girl who eventually marries the Poacher.

There is a subtle connection, never made explicit by Janáček, between the animal and the human worlds, and in particular between the girl and the Vixen. But the opera's main point is pantheistic: as it traces the changing seasons, so it also affirms the regenerative power of nature.

At the end the Forester, weary of the human treadmill, lies down in the forest and has his attention caught by a cub-vixen — identical to the mother, who was the Vixen which the Forester captured. The cycle of nature has turned again, and Janáček's music flows into an ecstatic and lyrical ending.

Last week Peter Brookes, normally found illustrating political articles in *The Times*, attended two final rehearsals for the Royal Opera's first-ever production of *The Cunning Little Vixen*, which opens tomorrow. The intention was partly for him to complete a cyclical pattern which would complement that in the opera itself.

here would be a newspaper illustrator responding to the ideas of an opera designer (William Dudley), in turn inspired by the music of a composer, who was himself fired by a series of newspaper illustrations.

But Brookes' brief was also to capture the spirit of this particular production: an outstanding young conductor (Simon Rattle) making his Royal Opera debut; and at the same time Covent Garden throwing its venerable doors open to a much younger audience than usual — as the first performance is part of the Midland Bank Prom Week.

About his illustration (re-

produced, above), Brookes says: "Watching these rehearsals, I could not but be aware of the Royal Opera's magnificent crest — lion, unicorn and all — hovering over the stage throughout, and of the curious parallels between that and the action below. Not just because both incorporate animals, but because a revolving wheel plays such a part in Dudley's wonderful designs. That was my starting point."

Bill Bryden's production of *The Cunning Little Vixen* will be performed tomorrow and on June 11, 15, 19, 23 and 25 at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066).

TELEVISION

Unholy history

A night after *World in Action*'s study of renewed anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, and a few hours after the House of Lords staged their greatest revolt of the last decade by throwing out the War Crimes Bill, Channel 4's *Shadow on the Cross* provided a disquieting litany of anti-Jewish measures going back 2,000 years.

Its thesis was that anti-Semitism has always been the fatal flaw in Christianity's attempt to serve God. Had Christ lived in Europe during World War II, he would have been killed as a Jew in Auschwitz. With graveyards and synagogues being desecrated once again, from Moscow to Birmingham, Malcolm Feuerstein's cool documentary could not have been more topical. It focused on the institutional nature of the church's love of political order — which allowed Hitler to become, for millions of Germans, not just a governor but God's representative on earth.

Large numbers of talking-heads in dog-collars contrasted sharply with the imagined arrest of Christ by Nazis, but the programme was at its best examining the Christian history of anti-Semitism and lodging a claim that anti-Semitism never existed until the coming of Christ. St Augustine thought Jews were only to be allowed to survive as a reproducible people, condemned to wander the earth as a warning to all others. Thus did the folkloric begin, and with it the prejudice that was discussed in the Upper House on Monday, and that led Lutherans as late as 1943 to proclaim the Holocaust as divine punishment for the Jewish rejection of Christ.

Meanwhile, BBC 1 went across the Arab border to consider Yasser Arafat, the somewhat unwilling focus of a remarkable profile by Marie Colvin. The Palestinian leader has no home,

his land is an obsession rather than a territory, and, although represented by missions all over the world, his cabinet exists only in airplanes and armed cars, perpetually on the move from safe house to diplomatic summit.

Prodded showing off his airplane telephone and state-of-the-art mobile fax machine to a reporter who maintained a nice balance of cynicism and courtesy, Arafat most often resembled a peripatetic arms dealer, wandering the conference world in search of the next negotiation that might do his stateless people a bit of good.

The year-long task of making this documentary was a considerable tribute to Colvin's courage and tenacity in asking questions that are usually now avoided in the light of Arafat's recent translation from *Time* magazine "rebel of the year" to the more respectable status of roving statesman. A fighter with Egyptian resistance at the time of Suez, Arafat became at the time of the Black September murders, a charge, meticulously detailed by Colvin's documentary, which was dismissed by the PLO leader with an embarrassed grin, which nevertheless indicated that he would answer no further questions on the matter.

A strolling player who wanted to be Moses but finished up as Noah, Arafat has now found a new role as the father of Palestinian youth. His Geneva statement of December 1988, renouncing terrorism and formally recognizing Israel, got him back on the cover of *Time* as a statesman, but Colvin's witnesses seemed unconvinced that the rebel had altogether abandoned the armed struggle. The old actor may yet have another role in store, but he has, after 30 years of conflict, failed to get even a yard of territory out of Israel.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

EXHIBITION

A show of consuming passion

Sarah Jane Checkland previews a V&A exhibition focusing on
Eighties consumer goods which are becoming collector's items

Enter a consumer's world, frequented by Nike trainers, Walkmans and ubiquitous Levi's. Instead of winging their wearers up the escalators of Harrods, or featuring in an Argos catalogue, however, these items are now presented on museum plinths.

Along with their more prosaic brothers, such as designer chairs and studio pottery, the items are the subjects of "Collecting for the Future: A Decade of Contemporary Acquisitions", an exhibition starting today at the V&A. Surprisingly, this is the first such exhibition mounted in nearly 150 years by the "Museum of Modern Manufacture". The Boilerhouse, which was in the V&A from 1981 to 1987 before becoming the Design Museum, mounted several exhibitions which concentrated on specific consumer themes, such as the Coca-Cola phenomenon, and "Taste".

Collecting is no longer the simple, gentlemanly exercise understood by the museum's founder, Henry Cole, whereby "the best works of all periods and countries should be obtained as far as practicable... Where the taste of the age or country has been low, few specimens will be necessary".

The museum is besieged by competing styles — neoclassicism, post-modernism and kitsch — undermined by fast-changing fashions and built-in obsolescence, and confused by greed, which dictates that what was once bought for love is now bought for investment. Inevitably, the exhibition will be used as a shopping-list for speculators.

The challenge is to represent these many different aspects of contemporary life, while continuing Cole's collecting tradition, and keeping within the museum's budget. Many objects have been acquired for the collection gratis or at cost price.

No doubt some will complain that many key artefacts of the Eighties have been left out. Where is the MFI furniture display so beloved by the masses? What about the return of costume jewellery to our ears and necks?

Some objects — furniture in particular — have been commissioned especially for the museum, and so have little connection with the outside world. Has the budget been used properly? Or has the museum been used by manufacturers and craftsmen as a prestige venue in which to show their wares?

Questions will be asked about the credentials of the museum moghuls appointed to select objects to represent our time. The museum sidesteps these issues, however by using an American exhibition organizer who can claim the impartiality of a foreigner. He is Christopher Wilk, who, after stints at the Brooklyn Museum and the Museum of



Object "made to be collected": Chair by designer Robert Venturi

Modern Art in New York, is the V&A's assistant keeper of furniture.

Although his conversation is peppered with asides ("Will I get in trouble for saying this?"), Wilk is refreshingly acerbic about his public, saying that we lag behind our European counterparts in generosity and taste, spending less per capita on furniture than any country in Europe, including Greece and Portugal. And our manufacturers are slow to give objects to the museum.

Our continuity of tradition, he says, has the disadvantage of making for an "entrenched conservatism which gets you Quinlan Terry and the Georgian revival, subscribed to by Mrs Thatcher when she bought that house in Dulwich". With a groan, he contrasts our Prime Minister's traditional office furniture with that of President Mitterrand, who uses plastic chairs by Philippe Starck.

Wilk has no general thesis about the exhibition. There is no discursive catalogue. But some items are priced, and there are some breathlessly worded captions worthy of Saatchi and Saatchi: Ralph Lauren's line in sporty gear, for example, "has worldwide appeal, combining English taste with American dash". The icons of the 1980s must speak for themselves. Here, therefore, is a bald presentation of objects for decoration.

objects for daily use, design process, marketing, objects "made to be collected", and polemical objects "intended to make a provocative statement about their particular object type, its material or even about design in general" (such as chairs "that do not pour property, or clothes that make walking difficult").

The category of objects for collection includes imitations of exhibits in the museum itself, which bring in a huge revenue. The highly-successful Franklin Mint range of miniature teapots is copied from examples in the collection, and the company which produces them helps to take "the strain" out of collecting, we are told, by sending them to collectors one by one.

Christopher Wilk's next project is to compile an aural reference library, in which owners of objects from a given era will be recorded explaining just what their trainers or Filofaxes mean to them. Let's hope he starts soon, so that when our fads give way to new forms, we can recapture their significance.

Collecting for the Future: A Decade of Contemporary Acquisitions opens today at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London SW7 (071-938 8500) and continues until August 12. Monday to Saturday 10am-5.30pm, Sunday 1.30pm-5.50pm. Admission: optional donation of £2.00

CRITICS' CHOICE:
OPERA AND DANCEOPERA
LONDON

CUNNING LITTLE VIXEN (Janáček). Covent Garden debut both for conductor Simon Rattle and, more surprisingly, the work itself. Lillian Watson and Thomas Allen lead the cast who will be singing, unusually for Covent Garden, in English. The production is by Royal National Theatre's Bill Bryden; William Dudley's designs are promised to be eye-catching. Watch out for Robert Tear's Gnat. (see feature, left)
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066), tomorrow (Prom) and Mon, 8pm, £2.50-£28; Prom tickets at £5 on the night.

IDOMENEO (Mozart). John Eliot Gardiner conducts his period-instrument orchestra in what should be a memorable concert performance, with Anthony Rolfe Johnson and Anne Sofie von Otter heading the cast.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-232 8300), Fri, 7pm, also June 11 and 19, £9-£29.

WALL/ALBERGO EMPEDOCLES. Paul Barker has already scored several successes with his Modern Music Theatre Troupe. This year he presents a promising double-bill of his own works. The Place Theatre, 17 Duke's Road, London WC1 (071-836 0008), Tues, 8pm, £9.50.

OUTSIDE LONDON

TORNRAK. Affecting drama by John Melville and Michael Wilcox about the loss of spiritual instincts; powerfully staged by Mike Ashman.
Welsh National Opera, Empire Theatre, Liverpool (051 705 1555), tonight, 7.15pm, £5.50-£24.

LA BOHEME (Puccini). Peter Knapp's Travelling Opera takes its trimmed-down *Bohème* and its athletic Don Pasquale (Donizetti) to the Midlands. Haymarket, Leicester (0533 539797), tonight (Bohème) and tomorrow (Pasquale), 7.30pm, £5-£10.

THE MIKADO (Gilbert & Sullivan). The new-look D'Oyly Carte continue their nationwide tour with *The Mikado* and, in a double-bill, *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Trials by Jury*.
Palace Theatre, Manchester (061 235 9922), tonight and tomorrow (Mikado), Fri and Sat (Pirates/Trials), 7.30pm, Mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm, £4-£16.50.

MADAMA BUTTERFLY (Puccini). Maria Espert's production and downy Cleo-San (Janice Cairns) with an unusual moral strength that emphasizes the outrageous cultural and sexual imperialism of Pinkerton (Arthur Davies).
Eden Court Theatre, Inverness (0483 227115), tomorrow-Sat, 7.15pm, £9-£17.50.

OTELLO (Verdi). Peter Stein's broadly conventional production for WNO is highly recommended; William Cochrane in the title role (Jeffrey Lawton due to return in Birmingham) joins the new Desdemona, Faith Esham.
Empire Theatre, Liverpool (see above), Fri, 7.15pm, £5.50-£24. Hippodrome, Birmingham (021 622 7485), Tues, 7.15pm, £11-£20.

KATYA Kabanova (Janáček). Welcome return of Nikolaus Lehnhoff's searing production, conducted by Andrew Davis. Strong cast headed by Nancy Gustafson.
Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0278 541111), Sun and Tues, 6.20pm, £20-£75.

BARRY MILLINGTON

DANCE

KIROV BALLET: *Swan Lake*. Kirov Ballet production short on drama but the dancers are first rate (tonight-Sat).
La Corsaire: Big colourful production, full of acrobatic drama and good dancing (Mon until June 18).
London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London SW1 (071-336 3161), eves, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 2pm, £9.50-£25.

NORTHERN BALLET THEATRE: From tonight until Saturday, Ronald Hynd's frothy Offenbach comedy, *Léonore Amoureuse*, with Gillian Lynne's *Lipizzaner* in which the girls play horses. From Tues (until June 18), *Giselle*, a slightly acrobatic production of the famous romantic classic by Christopher Gable.

Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8816), eves, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm, £4-£16.

STELLA: New work by adventurous young Belgian choreographer, Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker for her group Rosas; music by Ligeti.
Theatre Royal, Hope Street, Glasgow (041 3311234), Fri, Sat, 7.30pm, £3.50-£10.50.

MONTH IN THE COUNTRY: Sylvie Guillem with the Royal Ballet at a Covent Garden prom performance; also *Song of the Earth* with Doreen Bussell. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066), Sat, 7.30pm, £1-£25.

TURTLES ALL THE WAY DOWN: Lively interdisciplinary creation by Dan Waggoner for London Contemporary Dance Theatre, and Kim Brandstrup's curiously operatic *Orfeo*.
Theatre Royal, Glasgow (see above), Tues, Wed, 7.30pm, £3.50-£10.50.

JOHN PERKIVAL

PERFORMANCE ART

O SAY CAN YOU SEE? *The Black Pack*. Black performers from the US invade the ICA this week for music, comedy and madness. Tonight until Saturday George Wallace and Jemma Jones, originally from New Orleans (now both independently hitting the TV scene in the US), appearing with Darryl and the Dependents who perform as a rhythm and blues band.

ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (071-830 3647), tonight-Sat, 8pm, £5 (ES), plus £1 day pass.

ALTERNATIVE THEATRE: *Still a good night out?* An ICA talk questions radical theatre's present approach in an ever-changing political climate. John McGrath, author and founder-director of 784 Theatre Company discusses this with playwright David Edgar and John Fox, director of Welfare State.
ICA (see above), Tues, 7.30pm, £3 plus £1 day pass.

CILDO MERELES INSTALLATIONS: One of Brazil's best artists shows two of his most recent large-scale installations, "Massao-Messao" (How to Build Cathedrals) and "Cinza" (ash/grey). Powerful use of materials such as bones, coins, chalk and charcoal make this participatory experience strongly atmospheric.
ICA (see above), Thurs until July 8, 12-9pm, £1.50 day pass.

PETER ZEVELOFF: *Conifers*. Wonderful and zany, Dutch artist Zeveloff is commissioned by the Third Eye Centre to create a new performance piece leading us through five different environments. Full of mad sounds, crazy use of everyday objects and weird perspectives, the artist's work provides an atmosphere of intense mystical quality injected with a good sense of humour.
Third Eye Centre, 345-354 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow (041-332 0522), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, £3.50 (ES).

TELEVISION INTERVENTIONS 18-4.50: Throughout June, Channel 4 schedules will be interrupted

announced by a series of 19 short art works. The artists from Britain and Europe include David Mach, Alistair MacLennan, Bruce McLean and Rose Garrard. Each has had the use of this strong medium to question our normal expectations of television. All pieces, alongside other television intervention work from the last 25 years, will be on show at the Third Eye Centre Galleries — a chance to consider the new possibilities of this under-explored medium.

Third Eye Centre (see above), From Sat until June 24, Mon-Sat, 11am-6.30pm, Sun, 12-5.30pm.

BLACK NINE THEATRE: *Superheroes*. A new production from this young group gaining solid recognition for its entertaining but thoughtful dealings with serious contemporary issues — a rare occurrence in a mime world stuck in a rather trivial groove. This show uses voice and movement to create a "living cartoon" examining the role of the superhero.

The Leadmill, 6-7 Leadmill Road, Sheffield (0742 754500), Mon, 7.30pm, £2.00 (ES).

CHRISTIANE BODDINGTON

"AN OUTRAGEOUS NIGHT OUT"

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MARJORIE BLAND • NIAL Buggy
RON COOK • CHARLOTTE CORNWELL
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From ANDREW McEWEN IN COPENHAGEN

Mr Baker is due to address Nato foreign ministers in Scotland tomorrow on a review of the alliance, while Mr Shevardnadze returns to Moscow today to attend a Warsaw Pact summit. Both meetings look like tearing the lid off the tensions that had been expected before the Washington summit. The Pact

He agreed that his phrase "the existing membership" ruled out any possibility of the Soviet Union becoming a member of Nato, despite hints by the Soviet delegation dur-

By the end of the year 140 nuclear launchers and 3,200 nuclear guns would have been removed. He said this would leave the Soviet Union with only "small" tactical nuclear forces in Europe. American and British officials responded cautiously. Mr. Shevardnadze said the "transformation" of the Pact and of Nato was on the agenda of their respective summits.

Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 14
Letters, page 15

By NICHOLAS WOOD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The concept of a united Europe needed to take on a wider dimension. "We should not behave as if we were hastening to raise the gangplank of the Ark with only 10 species of animal on board, leaving 17 on land as the flood level climbs," he told a London meeting organized by the Bruges Group.

By RUTH GLEDHILL

The 10,000 rejected artists who wish to examine the features of Mr Green, as the man who co-ordinated the selection and laming committee, can be seen peering out of sculpted gaps, less where they have been incisively embrodered into a literal representation of his

Scots Nats and Plaid Cymru, topped with berets à la Citizen Smith's Tooting

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

Mr Robert Atkins, the Minister for Roads and Traffic, disclosed yesterday at the launch of a £1 million summer

ACROSS

- 1 Indian heard to confess to doubting up (8).
- 5 Joint that mends itself (6).
- 10 Improvident way to eat (4,3,2,5).
- 11 Household officer eager at first to ask about the regiment (7).
- 12 He encourages a gambler (7).
- 13 Poet is reviewed in books he favours (8).
- 15 Some sent a love of the classics is returning (9).
- 18 Instructor's exclamation of impatience to soldiers (5).
- 20 Part of Asia is in this state — less than half (8).
- 23 Panda in bizarre cabaret (7).
- 25 A slice of bread with lunch ain't free! (7).
- 26 Misguidedly revetting with two hoes — clearly one too many (3,4,3,5).

DOWN

- 1 A social gathering this morning for a drink (6).
- 2 Every military officer originally contributed without hesitation to this (9).
- 3 Scotch starts her weight going up — brisk movement needed (7).
- 4 Sikes's girl friend in France (5).
- 6 Method of creating work — in a time of shortage of permanent staff? (7).
- 7 Failing to give offence (5).
- 8 Exquisite Oriental leather work (8).
- 9 Melody containing note of distress (8).
- 14 Green tarantula ends up in cage (6).

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?
By Philip Howard

SPANIOLATE
a. Chestnut-leaf-shaped
b. To lips one's s's
c. To hispanize

EPEOLATRY

c. Worship of words
BANTENG
a. A Chinese coin
b. A supervisor
c. A wild ox
PUJA
a. A water pipe
b. A high official
c. Worship

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M-ways/roads M25-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Widlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745
AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 6 seconds (peak) and standard 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).	

the day. South-west England and Wales will start cloudy with outbreaks of rain which may be heavy at times. This will spread to all other parts by the end of the day. During the afternoon more western areas will brighten up with showers at times. Outlook: Rather cloudy. Showers, mainly in north and west. Rather cool.

SUNDAY: t-thunder; d-dizzle; lg-log; s-sun;
sh-shin; sn-snow; f-fair; c-cloud; E-even

[illegible][illegible]

Caracas	1.4	12	18	61	sun
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	cloudy
Atlanta	1.0	19	18	61	cloudy
Albany	1.0	19	18	61	cloudy
Folkstone	12.1	19	19	56	sun
Hickory	6.8	14	19	61	sun
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Bogart	10.9	19	18	61	sun
South Plains	11.9	19	17	62	sun
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Powder	3.5	17	18	64	bright
Savannah	12.5	17	18	61	showers
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Euclid	13.1	17	17	63	sun
Torrey	3.6	18	18	62	bright
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Gaenssler	14.0	17	17	63	sun
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Newspaper	6.0	16	16	51	cloudy
Savannah	11.9	19	19	58	bright
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Midway	6.8	19	19	59	bright
Douglas	10.2	18	15	59	sun
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Bedford	6.1	13	13	55	sun
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	bright
Euclid	13.0	18	18	61	sun
Newcastle	4.9	14	19	61	showers
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Carroll	12.6	18	15	52	sun
Antietam	12.0	19	17	63	showers
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Taney	10.8	18	16	61	sun
Albany	0.1	16	15	56	showers
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Edgewood	5.4	16	14	57	sun
Chowchilla	2.4	16	13	51	showers
Lawrenceville	1.0	19	18	61	sun
Lawrenceville	0.1	24	11	52	rain
Lawrenceville	7.2	13	13	52	rain
Whit	1.7	17	13	55	rain

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Great London.....	701*
Kent,Surrey,Sussex.....	702*
Dorset,Hants & IOW.....	703*
Devon & Cornwall.....	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Somrs.....	705*
Berks,Bucks,Oxon.....	706*

Temperature: 10 deg. max to 5 am to 8 pm, 10C (50F). Humidity: 8 pm, 65 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 8 pm, 0.06 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.2 hr. Sea, calm sea level, 6 pm, 1008.4 millibars, steady. 1,000 millibars—29.53 in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: London, 19C (66F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, northern Scotland, 10C (50F); highest rainfall: Kintyre, Moray Firth, 0.87 in; highest sunshine: Jersey

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 6 pm, 73C (155F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Rain: 2.6hr to 6 pm, 0.57 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 2.3 hr.

GLASGOW
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 19C (55F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.1 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.3 in.

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 6 pm, 13C (55F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.1 mm Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.3 hr.

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POLLEN COUNT

The pollen count for London and the east issued by the Asthma Research at 10 am yesterday was 76 (high). F

for today, low. For the next 24 hours, National Pollen and Hay Fever Bureau 500429 (updated at midday).

London 9.13 pm to 4.45 am
Bristol 9.22 pm to 4.55 am
Edinburgh 9.53 pm to 4.30 am
Manchester 9.33 pm to 4.42 am
Preston 9.28 pm to 5.14 am

Avonmouth	6.39	11.8	7.0
Belfast	10.36	3.1	11.0
Cardiff	6.24	10.8	6.4
Devonport	4.56	4.9	5.2
Dover	10.45	5.8	11.0
Falmouth	4.26	4.7	4.5
Glasgow	10.17	4.2	10.0

Glasgow	12.17	4.2	12.17
Harwich	11.27	3.8	11.44
Holyhead	9.58	4.8	10.11
Hull	5.54	6.5	6.1
Stranraer	5.24	7.8	5.4
King's Lynn	5.00	5.8	6.1
Leith	1.56	4.9	2.2

Tide is neutral

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Two-year effect of disasters for Sturge

By NEIL BENNETT

STURGE, Lloyd's largest insurance underwriting agency, has given warning that effects of disasters such as the Piper Alpha oil rig explosion and Hurricane Hugo will hit its profits for the next two years. The company lifted pre-tax profits in the six months to end-March by 10 per cent to £9.19 million, but forecast its profits for the full year will only match the £31.2 million made in 1989.

The interim dividend is being increased 10 per cent to 5.5p, with the group forecasting a total payout of 16.5p, up a tenth. Sturge earns most of its profits in the second half from commission from its 28 syndicates and the 2,500 Lloyd's names, or investors, it manages. This commission is collected three years in arrears.

Mr David Coleridge, the chairman, said it was generally recognized Lloyd's overall results for the 1988 and 1989 year and the group profits were likely to be lower. He said the fall would not hamper the group's development plans.

He added there were signs the insurance market was beginning to recover: "1989 was the bottom of the trough. Margins are just improving and people feel they can talk a little more belligerently." Profits are not likely to rise this year since some of Sturge's marine syndicates underperformed, and some of profit commission rates fell from 20 to 17.5 per cent. Even so, earnings per share are forecast to rise above 37p, compared to 36.6p in 1989.

Monarch in the black at \$41,000

MONARCH Resources is poised for the development of one of its more promising ventures later this year.

Monarch has net cash approaching \$10 million and is developing gold mining properties in Venezuela.

Lord Shackleton, the chairman, reported an attributable profit of \$41,000 for the year ended December compared with a previous \$1.13 million loss. Interest received, at \$1.86 million, more than offset the 1989 operating loss of \$1.41 million.

The company is to buy out the minority stake in the La Camorra and Canaima ventures for a basic \$3.5 million, and said the La Camorra mine project — now at the pre-feasibility stage — has encouraging potential.

The group's cash flow should be assisted by a higher grade feed to its Revenim plant from other deposits. Further joint ventures are planned and there has been another increase in the group's concession areas.

Recent changes in Venezuela's investment regulations will lead to smoother profits and dividend remittance, the company added.

Manpower to sell US firms

MANPOWER, the employment agency, has agreed the \$50 million-plus sale of six US temporary employment businesses to Career Horizons, a leveraged buyout consortium, in a move which continues the dismantling of the Blue Arrow empire built up by Mr Tony Barry, the former chairman.

The sale completes Manpower's US disposal programme, but British businesses not trading under the Manpower name will still go, with negotiations continuing. Career, which is led by Harvest Ventures, a New York merchant bank, is paying \$44.9 million in cash and taking \$6 million in 8 per cent cumulative preferred stock.

The subsidiaries being sold contributed about 3 per cent of total operating profits in the latest financial year and had a book value of \$30.8 million. It is thought management of at least some of the businesses had considered their own buyout plans but failed to reach Manpower's asking price.

Half the shareholdings in water sold since flotation

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT
FINANCIAL EDITOR

ABOUT half the shareholdings in water companies bought by investors at last December's privatization have already been sold.

North West Water, the first to report results for the year to end March, revealed that its shareholder list had shrunk from an original 245,000 to below 120,000.

Some other privatized water groups especially favoured by speculators have seen their number of shareholders fall even faster as customers and speculators cashed in early gains, leaving longer term holders to face the political uncertainties posed by Labour's plans for the industry.

Yorkshire Water, which started with 215,000 shareholders, is down to 96,000, reflecting its greater initial popularity. But Wessex Water, also strongly favoured, has kept 90,000 of its original



Results: North West's Dennis Grove and Bob Thian

180,000 shareholders, with 65,000 customers staying loyal.

Severn Trent, whose share offer was less oversubscribed than others, has kept 180,000 of its original 300,000 shareholders. Customers have been relatively loyal and account for three quarters of holdings.

Mr Bob Thian, chief executive of North West, said selling had been continuous,



though it wasn't concentrated in the first few weeks. North West comfortably beat its prospectus profit forecast with pre-tax profits of £75.3 million (against a forecast of not less than £70 million). Pro forma profits, which give a better guide by allowing for the Government's cash injection and debt write-off, were £177.3 million against a minimum forecast of £172 million.

Earnings per share were 44.6p against the forecast 43.1p. As expected, the part dividend for the year is 10.47p per share, equivalent to 15.7p for a full year.

Mr Dennis Grove, chairman, said North West aimed to be a high quality company and expected to meet its regulatory targets and complete its investment programme — £4.3 billion over 10 years — on target. He said North West expected to avoid water shortages this summer.

Mr Thian said that so far, North West had been able to keep cost inflation on its capital programme below what it had budgeted for.

Profits were struck after exceptional items of £18 million, including North West's £3 million share of the pre-privatization awareness campaign and £11 million for restructuring of the core business. Privatization costs of £6.7 million were treated as an extraordinary item.

Jacklin on the Leading board



FORMER Ryder Cup-winning captain Tony Jacklin has joined the board of Leading Leisure, the leisure hotels group, specializing in golf and tennis facilities.

Malizia, Leading Leisure's chairman and chief executive, will act exclusively for the group in the management and promotion of its golfing interests.

Development of a championship standard course and hotel began at Winc

chester, Hampshire, last autumn, and work will start soon on another at Carnoustie, Tayside. There are also plans for courses at the Seilston Manor Hotel in north Wales and at Hoddum Castle, near Annan, Dumfries.

Mark-swap rules bar speculators

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

THE West German Bundesbank has set out the terms under which East German Ostmarks can be converted into Deutschmarks after currency union between East and West Germany on July 1.

The rules have been designed to prevent foreign speculators moving funds into Ostmarks in the hope of gaining from a favourable exchange rate.

Non-residents with East German bank accounts can exchange sums at a two-to-one rate only if these were held at December 31 last year. Otherwise, foreign holdings will be exchanged at a three-to-one rate. This has been reflected in

the black market rate during recent months.

All transactions have to be based on existing bank accounts. It will not be possible to exchange cash, except for tourists, who, until July 6, will be able to change Ostmarks if they have an official receipt.

Ostmark banknotes will cease to be official tender on July 1. East Germans will then have until July 6 to change savings into Deutschmarks. Adults will be able to convert 10,000 of their holdings into Deutschmarks at one for one. The ceiling for pensioners is 10,000, and for children 10,000. The remainder is for exchange at two for one.

Receivers called in by Coleby Group

By OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

COLEBY Group, the East Midlands housebuilder, has called in receivers because of an escalating debt burden. It specialized through its Sealhome subsidiary in tailor-made executive-style houses throughout Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire.

The receivers, Mr Lindsay Denney and Mr John Wilson of Spicer & Oppenheim and Partners, are hopeful of selling off a division of Coleby which is involved in roadbuilding.

Buyers are being sought for incomplete Coleby housebuilding developments in Grantham, Newark, Lincoln, Bourne and Woodhall Spa.

Mr Denney said Coleby was suffering like others in construction in the South-east. There were high interest burdens on land bought at top prices during the earlier boom times while a dearth of house buyers had supervened.

"Although Sealhome is a more upmarket builder the problems at the lower end feed through to the better quality sites and the East Midlands is no exception," he said.

Spicer & Oppenheim has another builder in receivership, Federated Housing, based in Surrey, which specialized in properties for the first time buyer.

Auditors' merger defeated

By OUR FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE Institute of Chartered Accountants has narrowly failed to secure the two thirds majority needed to approve its planned merger with the public sector accountants of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (Cipfa).

But its members passed by a 70 per cent majority the proposals, essential to the merger, which will allow chartered accountants to be trained outside professional practice (TOPP) for the first time. Cipfa members had approved the merger proposals by an 81 to 19 per cent majority in a 52 per cent vote.

The narrowness of the ICA vote, in which 61 per cent of the 36 per cent voting approved the merger, is likely to encourage both sides to pursue the proposals and take another merger vote.

The ICA had mounted a strong campaign for the Cipfa proposals which it regarded as vital to increasing the influence of the British accountancy profession within the European Community.

Mr Mike Lickiss, deputy president of the ICA, said he was mainly disappointed at the low turnout of votes. He said he did not regard the vote as a failure because the TOPP scheme was a major step forward and there had been a good majority in favour of the merger. He will put several options to the ICA council in the next few days and said that having another vote was a strong option.

Comment, page 31

Food scares fail to dent Argyll's rise to £243m

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

MR ALISTAIR Grant, chairman of the Safeway supermarket group, Argyll, has said food retailers will have to live with the prospect of recurring food scares — but he added that so far they had failed to dent the buoyant growth of his company.

"People get very worried about food but are prepared to stuff themselves full of toxins like alcohol and cigarettes," he said. "I've seen pregnant women smoking and asking me whether it was safe to eat certain foods."

Pre-tax profits at Argyll rose 17 per cent to £243.6 million before an exceptional charge of £16.1 million for the cost of

completing its expansion and conversion programme. Sales rose 12 per cent to £4.14 billion and earnings per share 25 per cent to 17.2p. The final dividend is 4.8p, making a total of 7.25p, a rise of 17 per cent.

The group received interest income of £19 million and made property profits of £3.2 million. There was an extraordinary item of £4.1 million paid by Guinness after a Takeover Panel ruling. Argyll is waiting until the end of the Guinness trial before taking further action and is expected to sue the drinks group for up to £750 million.

The Presto conversion programme of the past three years

will finish this summer. The total cost will be £89.4 million and 220 small stores will retain the Presto name.

Some financial benefits are coming through from the group's links with other European retailers in terms of shared costs, and while not yet significant, Mr Grant says the European link is strategically important and should benefit the group in the future.

Mr Grant said the current financial year has started well and the board is confident of another year of good margin and profit growth. Argyll shares fell 5p to 229p.

Tempus, page 31
NICK GOLDFINGER



Living with scares: Alistair Grant at the Safeway store, Kensington, west London

Oriflame to focus on openings in the East

By OUR CITY STAFF

ORIFLAME International, the Swedish cosmetics group, has revealed plans for greater involvement in Eastern Europe, focusing on cosmetics and other consumer-related opportunities.

Mr Jonas Jochnick, chairman, said that Oriflame was forming a new company, Oriflame Eastern Europe, to "focus on the emerging commercial opportunities."

Oriflame has about £20 million net cash, and it is understood that about £2 million of it will be invested, with initial plans for operations in Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Mr Jochnick will become executive chairman and chief executive of Oriflame Eastern Europe, and Oriflame's shareholders will be invited to subscribe for new shares in this company on a pro rata basis.

Oriflame also reported pre-tax profits of £10.5 million in the year to end-March, excluding "unusual items", against £9.78 million last time. An annual debit of £893,000, mainly relating to relocation costs, compared with a credit of £3.43 million previously. Earnings per share fell from 24p to 17.2p, but, excluding unusual items, rose by 10 per cent to 19p. The final dividend rises to 8p (6.5p), making 12p (10p) for the year, up 20 per cent.

Sales slipped from £66.3 million to £54.3 million, although after adjusting for discontinued business they rose by 16 per cent. Sales growth was helped by the strength of the group's direct marketing technique, whereby trained independent consultants sell to consumers using brochures and in-home demonstrations.

Mr Jochnick said that the company had about 13,000 consultants in the UK, with this number growing, and more than 1 million customers. The average spend was "about £8 or £9, and rising."

Oriflame had opened up in Chile and Malaysia, and test marketing of Vevay, its mail order brand, which accounts for about 20 per cent of production, had been expanded in Britain and France.

Mr Jochnick said: "We have many markets at different stages of development that will create the opportunity for stability, as well as for growth. In addition, we have a strong financial position to support and back our activities."



Patullo: early decision

New Governor for Bank of Scotland

By OUR BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of Scotland has announced that Mr Bruce Patullo, its chief executive, will be appointed as Governor when Sir Thomas Risk retires at next summer's annual meeting. Mr Patullo, aged 52, will hold the post while keeping his job as chief executive. At the same time, the bank is proposing two non-executive deputy governors. Mr Thomas Hutchinson and Professor Jack Shaw. Both are non-executive directors.

Sir Thomas said the bank had made the announcement early to prevent any confusion about the succession. "We thought it was best to tell people when he had made up our minds. We have now got a year to organize things."

Sir Thomas had originally intended to retire in 1988 when he was 65, but the

board asked him to stay on for a further three years. Apart from his flamboyant leadership of the Bank, Sir Thomas will be remembered for the row with Guinness over its refusal to make him chairman. In 1986, the drinks group reneged on an agreement to appoint him following its acquisition of Distillers, calling the idea "misconceived." Instead, it made Mr Ernest Saunders chairman and chief executive.

Sir Thomas was a partner in MacLay Murray & Spence, the Scottish solicitor, from 1951 until his appointment to the Bank of Scotland. Last year, his salary rose 20 per cent to £120,000 a year, excluding his pension, less than two of the bank's employees.

During his time at the bank, its pre-tax profits have increased from £45 million

to £194 million, despite the recession in the early 1980s, and more recently, provisions against Third World debts. Since 1981, the dividend has risen each year — from 1.2p to 4.6p a share.

Mr Patullo has spent his career at the Bank of Scotland. In the 1970s, he was chief executive of the British Linen Bank, the City merchant bank, before becoming the group's treasurer and general manager. He became chief executive in 1988. Sir Thomas said: "Unlike me, he is a professional banker, and I think it is useful to have that at the head of a bank nowadays."

Mr Hutchinson is a director of ICI, with responsibility for its plastics and petrochemicals businesses. Professor Shaw is due to retire as the executive director of Scottish Financial Enterprise.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Heavier interest trims profits at Marshalls

MARSHALLS PLC managed a 19 per cent increase in operating profits to £30.6 million in the year to March 31 on sales also 19 per cent up at £181 million despite a slowdown in its brick business in the second half. But interest charges tripled to £2.89 million, leaving pre-tax profits just 11 per cent ahead at £27.7 million. Fully-diluted earnings per share are only 5 per cent up at 14.2p. The final dividend is, none the less, being raised by 0.5p to 3.75p, leaving the total 14 per cent greater at 5p.

Mr David Marshall, the chairman, said: "Competitive pressure has borne down on margins, bricks having a torrid time in the second half with lower sales and profit compared with last year." The shares eased by 5p to 124p on the news.

Dunton gives £700m tape merger plan

THE recession in property and housebuilding claimed another victim with a warning from Dunton Group that there would be no profits reported for the financial year to end-May. The shares slipped 2½p to 19½p, little more than half their value last summer, valuing the USM-quoted group at £4 million. Dunton made a £1.11 million pre-tax profit last year.

BASF and Agfa-Gevaert, the West German chemical conglomerates, have agreed to sign a letter of intent for a DM2 billion (£700 million) merger of their audio and video-tape divisions. The groups are two of Europe's main producers of tapes, but face strong Japanese competition. BASF said operating figures were "not satisfactory." The deal needs Federal Cartel Office approval.

Hall profits facing warning

THE shares in Hall Engineering fell by 25p to 130p after a profits warning. The company said profits for the first half of 1990 will be "significantly below the first half of 1989," although the interim dividend should be maintained. British Reinforced Concrete Engineering, Hall's subsidiary, has embarked on a rationalization programme. About 100 employees will be made redundant.

Total costs of the programme are expected to be about £750,000, although the rationalization will yield annual savings of £1 million.

ACT ahead 33% at £8m

ACT, which sold its Apricot Computer business to Mitsubishi Electric for £39 million in April, has reported 33 per cent increases in sales and profits, to £141 million and £8 million before tax respectively, for the year to March. Earnings per share rose 14 per cent to 7.07p and the final dividend is to increase by 0.25p to 1.5p, leaving the total 13 per cent higher at 2.25p.

Liquidity improves

COMPANY liquidity improved slightly for the second successive quarter in the first three months of 1990, mainly thanks to a recovery among non-manufacturing companies whose position had worsened sharply after the credit squeeze last year. But the net short-term indebtedness of manufacturing companies turned up again after dropping slightly in the last quarter of 1989.

N Brown doubles

N BROWN Investments, the Manchester mail order company run by Sir David Alliance, has recovered sharply from the effects of the 1988 postal strike. Pre-tax profits more than doubled from £6.11 million to £12.5 million in the year to March 3, on sales 18 per cent up at £127 million.

Operating profits from the core mail order division, at £17.2 million, were up 30 per cent higher, but were offset by a fall in the financial and property services side. Earnings per share recovered by 96 per cent to 14p. The final dividend, up by 0.175p to 3.675p, leaves the total 5 per cent ahead at 5.25p.

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Royal event for Commercial Union

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

Later this week, or maybe next, Commercial Union will announce it has bought Royal Trust Asset Management, a further extension of the fund management operations it is building around the bones of the private client operations of Quilter Goodison, which were bought from Paribas in 1988. The announcement will follow hard on the heels of the launch at the start of the month of its pan-European unit trust collection, based in Luxembourg.

The Royal Trust purchase may not be enormous in terms of Commercial Union's assets and market value, but if it acquires all the constituent parts it will pick up some £650 million of additional funds under management. The Royal Trust operation has some £200 million of unit trusts, £300 million of private clients and pension funds and £150 million out of Luxembourg where, like CU, it is operating an umbrella fund.

It is the unit trust portfolio of Royal Trust which particularly interests CU, and it is by no means certain that all the constituent parts of the business

will find their way into the hands of the new owners.

But even if, at the end of the negotiations, CU does acquire all the Royal Trust Asset Management activities, its ambitions are unlikely to stop there. As much as forty per cent of private client stockbroking in Britain is up for sale, and a chunk of institutional broking too. CU is unlikely to be first in the queue to buy Stock Group, the regional stockbroking operations of the flattened British & Commonwealth, but there are others on offer and CU cannot be expected to sit on its hands for long.

The decision by the Royal Trust to withdraw from the asset management business it has been carefully assembling since it acquired the Arbutnot Latham unit trust business in 1987 seems curious, and comes hard on the heels of the move by its fellow countryman Royal Bank of Canada to close Kitcher & Aitken's London brokerage opera-

tions. Do the Canadians know something we don't, or do they not know why they ever thought it a good idea in the first place?

Saatchi

Timing is everything, and it was the ability of the brothers Saatchi to ship the long-awaited sale of the Hay Group consultancy business under the wire only minutes ahead of announcing their group's interim results, rather than any intrinsic merit in the figures, which prompted a 6p rise to 107p in the share price. Further delay in the disposal, after all the premature publicity, would have left Saatchi severely

embarrassed. As it was, the relief was tempered with some disappointment with the \$60-odd million net cash which the sale of the group's biggest consultancy business will raise.

The interims themselves were little to take out a double-page advertisement about, despite the boost from fine art disposals. The dropped dividend was the only decent course of action, and the final payment is likely to be a nominal one.

Cash outflows this year will be about £40 million, a little lower than had been signalled at the time of the annual meeting in March, and with the group currently cash-positive the chief executive, M Robert Louis-Dreyfus, thinks he can ride out

the difficult next two years without further widespread dismemberment of the brothers' empire.

Others seem less convinced — the continuing high yield on the Euroconvertibles, apparently assuming complete collapse, make them an attractive option for those who will insist on a gamble. The ordinarys still have little going for them.

No true view

Rejection by the Scottish accountants last year seems to have induced merger fatigue among English and Welsh accountants. Despite a vigorous campaign, fewer voted this time, causing another embarrassment for the Institute's leadership. This shows an odd sense of priorities for such supposedly rational folk since training outside professional practice and the merger with Cipfa were far

more vital to the future of the profession than a takeover scheme doomed by trampling on national feelings North of the border.

The case for the Cipfa merger is strong. It would have created a body that could argue with authority in Brussels for international accounting standards to be adopted in the European Community rather than the legalistic and somewhat opaque practices used in most leading countries on the continent, where public sector industry is a bigger part of the mix.

Given that the Cipfa merger was backed by a majority, that there was little organized opposition and that the issue is simpler now that training outside accounting firms has been approved, it must be tempting for the ICA council to seek a quick reversal of the vote.

Lack of controversy might have induced apathy. The logic would be for those against to accept the will of the majority. The danger of further egg on the face is that those against would be offended, while further voter fatigue set in among the majority.

TEMPUS

Safeway forward for Argyll

\$24. A few more months of uncertainty, with no sign of a backer, management's eye well and truly off the ball, and a slump into the red, and Tomkins was ready.

Its \$18.50 a share offer is being jumped on by management, which no longer has the option of buying the business itself.

New chief executive Mr Joe Deering recognizes the need for restructuring, and for ending the uncertainty over Philips' future. Operating profits of \$57 million for the year ended last March have been swallowed up by provisions for losses on the sale of three of the group's 22 companies and the \$12 million fees charged by Merrill Lynch.

The disposals will go ahead even if Tomkins wins. Mr Hutchings said: "Things will be tough for a year or two, with 22 per cent of Philips' output finding a natural home in the residential market, but Philips will be in a strong position for the upturn when it comes." He should have no difficulty in finding savings at a company where corporate expenses, including the company jet, accounted for 22 per cent of 1989 profits.

At 14.7 times the depressed 1990 earnings, Tomkins is paying a shade under the Standard & Poor's average, while the figure drops to 11.5 when based on the 1989 pre-tax profit of \$74 million. The money for the deal will come from shareholders, who will bear exactly how much if and when Philips shareholders vote in favour of the bid, and underwriting can begin.

Rights issues are nothing new to a Tomkins investor, but the threat of one in two weeks is a novel idea for the market. It will save underwriting expenses if the deal fails to go through, of course, while Tomkins will avoid the embarrassment of sitting on a cash pile with nothing on which to spend it.

Meanwhile, Mr Hutchings once again underlines his abhorrence of high gearing levels. Tomkins has next to no borrowings, although it will take on about \$100 million of Philips debt.

Mr Geoff Allum, County NatWest analyst, said: "It's a classic Tomkins deal." He expects holders to be offered seven shares for 10 at about 247p apiece. Unless the market falls heavily out of bed, Mr Hutchings should have little difficulty in getting it away.

Michael Tate

ARGYLL'S results fell on stony ground. The shares were overshadowed by the possibility of an Office of Fair Trading investigation into food retailers coupled with the fact that sector sentiment is turning after a good run in the last quarter.

But the company was congratulating itself for completing its Safeway 1990s programme on time and under budget and for boosting Safeway's operating profits by 50 per cent to £159 million in the last year.

Group pre-tax profits rose 17 per cent to £243.6 million before an exceptional charge of £16.1 million for the cost of completing its expansion and conversion programme. After the exceptional item pre-tax profits rose 27 per cent to £227 million. Sales rose 12 per cent to £4.14 billion and earnings per share rose 25 per cent to 17.2p. The final dividend is 4.8p making a total of 7.25p, an increase of 17 per cent.

Results were as expected and the group now faces the task of squeezing extra margin and sales per square foot from a stable business and improving the own-brand offering. Like-for-like sales growth of 1/2 per cent after inflation is on the disappointing side but Argyll's chairman, Mr Alistair Grant, believes this will improve as the group turns its attentions away from the rapid expansion programme towards refurbishing the older Safeway stores.

Store openings totalled 23, taking the number of Safeway outlets to 291 with 18 new stores planned this year. Presto will have 220 small stores in Scotland and the north of England by the end of this year with sales of about £500 million. Lo-Cost, the group's other business, has 320 stores in the south.

Eventually Argyll will have to make an acquisition as the food retailing sector in Britain heads towards maturity. A US or European food retailer would be the obvious choice but a British group such as Asda would also be a possibility.

The shares, down 5p at 229p, are on a prospective p/e ratio of 11.2 assuming pre-tax profits of £280 million for the

Results 1989/1990

- Maintained profits
- 10% increase in dividends

	1989-90	1988-89
Profit before tax	£33.6m	£33.9m
Earnings per share	36.8p	38.6p
Dividends per share	22.6p	20.5p

For the future

- Strong Engineering order books
- Planned sale of Coal Distribution activities
- Proposed joint venture of US Chemical Storage Terminals
- Reduced dependence on winter related fuels
- Confidence in long-term performance

The Annual Report will be sent to shareholders on or about 25th June 1990. Copies will be available on application to the Secretary.

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US deal puts an end to Tomkins' two-year fast



Far horizon: Hutchings contemplates the US deal

THE collapse of the junk bond market has left US businesses looking decidedly overpriced. Mr Gregory Hutchings, of Tomkins, has spent too long in the Hanson school of enterprise to pass up that kind of opportunity for long.

Almost two years have passed since Tomkins last made an acquisition of any note, comforting evidence that it was not prepared to do a deal for a deal's sake.

Now, said Mr Hutchings, we have a window of opportunity. He has reached through to pull off the classic Tomkins deal.

It is hard to find fault either with the deal, or with the strategy. Never has Tomkins attempted so big a move, but never has it had such a huge appetite. Its two-year fast has left it lean, hungry, and financially nimble enough to pounce the moment Philips Industries appeared in the shop window.

Like Hanson, where Mr Hutchings spent his formative years, Tomkins prefers low-tech, strong-branded manufacturing businesses in stable markets. Unlike his mentor, Mr Hutchings has not gone in for break-up bids. He said: "We are industrial managers. We like running companies."

He does not mind the parallels being drawn with Hanson. "If we can report 25 years of uninterrupted growth after 25 years in business, that will suit me," he said. So far, it is six out of six, and nobody is betting that either the year just ended or the one now under way will show anything but hefty increases.

In 1983, Mr Hutchings, then aged 36, took the wheel at FH Tomkins, the Walsall nuts and bolts manufacturer, when it was making taxable profits of less than £500,000 a year. His first deal, was the £2.2 million acquisition of Ferraris Piston Service, a motor parts distributor, and he went on to mop up a string of Midlands metal-bashers, culminating in a £200 million bid for Pegler-Hattersley in 1986.

The following year, Tomkins turned its attention overseas, swooping for Smith & Wesson, the gun manufacturer. Another 12 months later, it paid £126 million for Murray Ohio Manufacturing, a collection of lawnmower and cycle businesses. Philips will lift the US contribution to Tomkins profits to 66 per cent, against the company's ideal balance of 40-40 British and US, with 20 per cent from the rest of the world. "But we

have to take the opportunities when and where they arise," Mr Hutchings explained.

Philips is a company right out of the Tomkins acquisition handbook. Based in Dayton, Ohio, and employing 10,300, it operates a range of five businesses, from grills and lawnmowers for air conditioning systems to conveyor belting, which are sold virtually throughout the US.

Succession problems have seriously weakened a management that up to 1989 boasted

sound profit growth. The company is now available at a price that offers no threat to Tomkins' earnings per share.

Philips founder and president Mr Jesse Philips, now 75, decided more than 12 months ago that he wanted to cash up his remaining 6 per cent of the equity. Merrill Lynch put together a leveraged buyout plan for the management.

But by last autumn the market was unloading junk bonds, and Merrill could find no takers, either at \$25.50 or

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Clever Trevor walks out

TREVOR Robinson has walked out as head of derivatives at CSFB, the securities trading arm of Credit Suisse, six months after he joined the firm from Scottish Provident to establish an OTC options team. Robinson, aged 37, known as "Dome" because of his lack of hair, left last Thursday after hearing that a complete team from Bankers Trust, led by Allan Wheat, had been brought in under his nose to do exactly the same thing. Pondering his next move, Robinson told me, from his home in Kent yesterday, that he decided to leave after the Bankers Trust team — hitherto his rivals — wrote to clients saying it was almost ready to begin trading. "I've nothing against the Bankers Trust team, but I object to the way it was done," says Robinson, who also has to suffer the nickname "Clever Trevor". Robinson, during his spell with CSFB, recruited Andrew Taitling, from Kleinwort Benson where he was head of convertible trading, and Hamish Bullough, head of convertible sales at County NatWest. No comment has been forthcoming from Hans-Joerg Rudloff, the CSFB chairman, who commutes weekly to London from his home near Geneva.

Hector's House

HECTOR'S House took on a new meaning yesterday for about 60 of the most senior

managers from United Biscuits. In the morning they were invited to lavish Brocklet Hall — the Welwyn, Hertfordshire, home-cum-conference centre of Lord and Lady Brocklet — for a secret "team talk" by UB's new chairman Bob Clarke. The managers, who had been flown in from all four corners of the globe, were then transferred to the Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, country mansion owned by Sir Hector Laing, former UB chairman, who became life president a month ago. In sharp contrast to the quaint



"Hope they can make it"

cottage inhabited by a dog in the children's programme of the same name, Sir Hector had even erected a marquee in the grounds, to shield his workers from the rain.

WHEN asked what it felt like to be chairman of Smith New Court, Michael Richardson said: "Lonely... whenever I say good morning to people in the corridor they pin themselves to the wall as if I was going to attack them."

Granville's gain
GRANVILLE & Co, the private investment banking group which began life after a management buyout from OTC trader MJH Nightingale, has recruited a one-time Kleinwort Benson man to run its burgeoning corporate finance division. Charles Arnold, aged 46, and fluent in four languages, spent 12 years with KB, becoming its youngest main board director. But to take up the job at Granville he has resigned from his subsequent position as group finance director at Unitech, the diversified trading company. "It's a position we have been looking to fill for some time," says Granville spokesman Paul Dawson — known for his passion for Gregorian chant — who explains that the

firm took its name from its managing director, Robin Hodgson. "It's his middle name," Dawson says.

Drag performance
STOCKBROKERS struggling to find new ways of keeping clients entertained, while stock market volumes are so low, could take a tip or two from County NatWest Wood-Mac which has found a novel solution to the problem. The firm recently challenged an all-woman team of fund managers to five-a-side football — an idea dreamed up by stores salesman Mark Chewler — and to make them feel at home, the County team trooped on to the pitch, at the Fulham football ground, dressed in drag. By cruel coincidence, however, the male team included Sandy Morris, County's 6ft 3in investment analyst, who on a recent analysts' trip to the US, hosted by cable and construction group BICC, suffered the indignity of being called "Miss Sandy Morris" on all badges and literature. Morris, who is now away on holiday recovering from the experience, was heard to mutter that, if he had known, he would have packed a dress. Someone, clearly, has finally taken him at his word.

Carr bounces back

FRED Carr — real name Francis but known as Fred ever since a chum at Eton declared that, unshaven, he looked like Fred Flintstone — is back. Carr, aged 45, effectively left the Square Mile six months ago after he resigned as the marketing director at Capel-Cure Myers Capital Management, having previously been a partner of the broking firm Capel-Cure Myers. He has this week become the director responsible for new business development at WI Carr Investments, the private client division of the firm. WI Carr is majority-owned by the French bank Banque Indosuez. "I've always had rather a soft spot for the French, that soft spot probably being somewhere near my stomach," quips Carr — but he is not, he says, related to the WI Carr family. "My grandfather, Lancelot Carr, was senior partner of Smith Rice & Hill, which eventually became part of Capel-Cure Myers," he explains. "But as far as I know he was not related to William Isaac Carr, who founded this firm." During his absence his stated intention — in this column — to write a thriller failed to come to fruition. But Carr has written a children's book, based on a story he tells Polly, his five-year-old daughter, for which he is now seeking both an illustrator and publisher.

Carol Leonard

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016	GenCorp	170	2	24	26
017	GenCorp	170	2	11.0	10.6
128	Bojiing Corp	22	1	10.0	10.0
129	Bojiing Corp	22	1	9.4	9.4
200	Bojiing Corp	22	1	9.4	9.4
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PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

107	107	75	75
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197	197	75	75
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199	199	75	75
200	200	75	75

PROPERTY[illegible]

John
in Thomas

[illegible]

MINING

[illegible]

10-11-12

149	194	Swadlow Prep	118	125	20	1.8
150	195	Swadlow	118	125	20	1.8
151	196	Swadlow	118	125	20	1.8
152	197	Swadlow	118	125	20	1.8
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208	2					

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MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

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OILS, GAS

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 Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or
 share split t Tax-free No dividend date

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2. Which company has built 1.7 million square feet of new selling space in the last three years?
3. Which company now has a truly nationwide supermarket chain, from Inverness to Penzance?
4. Which company recently put its Chairman and Executive Directors in the firing line at the first major shoppers' conference held by a British supermarket?
5. Which company was first to re-cycle its own (and anyone else's) plastic carrier bags?
6. Which company has one of the largest retail pharmacy operations in the UK?
7. Which company is a major force behind Europe's leading organic farming centre?
8. Which company has built one of the largest and most efficient food distribution centres in Europe?
9. Which company was the first to establish an alliance with leading grocery retailers in Europe?
10. Which company is dedicated to maintaining and improving its superior reputation for customer service and courtesy?

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

By Christopher Warman

Building up another set of problems

The developer, the architect and the agent may be satisfied with the commercial property they have brought to the market, but often the final link in the chain — the occupier — is not fully content, according to a survey carried out by the agents Vail Williams.

In the survey, 58 companies housed in modern business space were interviewed, and after seeing the results, John Vail, joint senior partner, concludes: "We believe it provides some fascinating, embarrassing, detailed, controversial, yet valuable insights to which we must respond if we are to service effectively this ever more sophisticated market place."

Vail Williams believes that its report, *The Occupier's View - Business Space in the '90s*, is the first in-depth, post-occupancy evaluation of its kind. If so, the occupiers have given freely of their opinions.

Most occupiers were satisfied with the external appearance of their buildings and the landscaping, "although the glass boxes so beloved for so long are less favoured today than the traditional brick and pitched roof construction".

Most of the concerns covered the interior of the buildings and their practicality, and as one firm put it: "The primary interest seems to be aesthetic rather than

Companies are often unhappy with their shiny new premises

practicality. It is no good if it looks nice and doesn't work."

Another comment about architects highlights the need for contact once the building is occupied. They never come back to learn either what is good or bad.

Architects are criticized, too, for not listening to the tenant and making little effort to understand how offices function. Neither do developers escape criticism. One interviewee described them as "ostriches with their heads firmly buried in the sand", reluctant to enter a dialogue with occupiers. Agents were also criticized, particularly for their lack of knowledge of the buildings they were marketing.

In design, tenants were most dissatisfied with cleaning and maintenance and building services, some of which were minor matters but a great source of irritation.

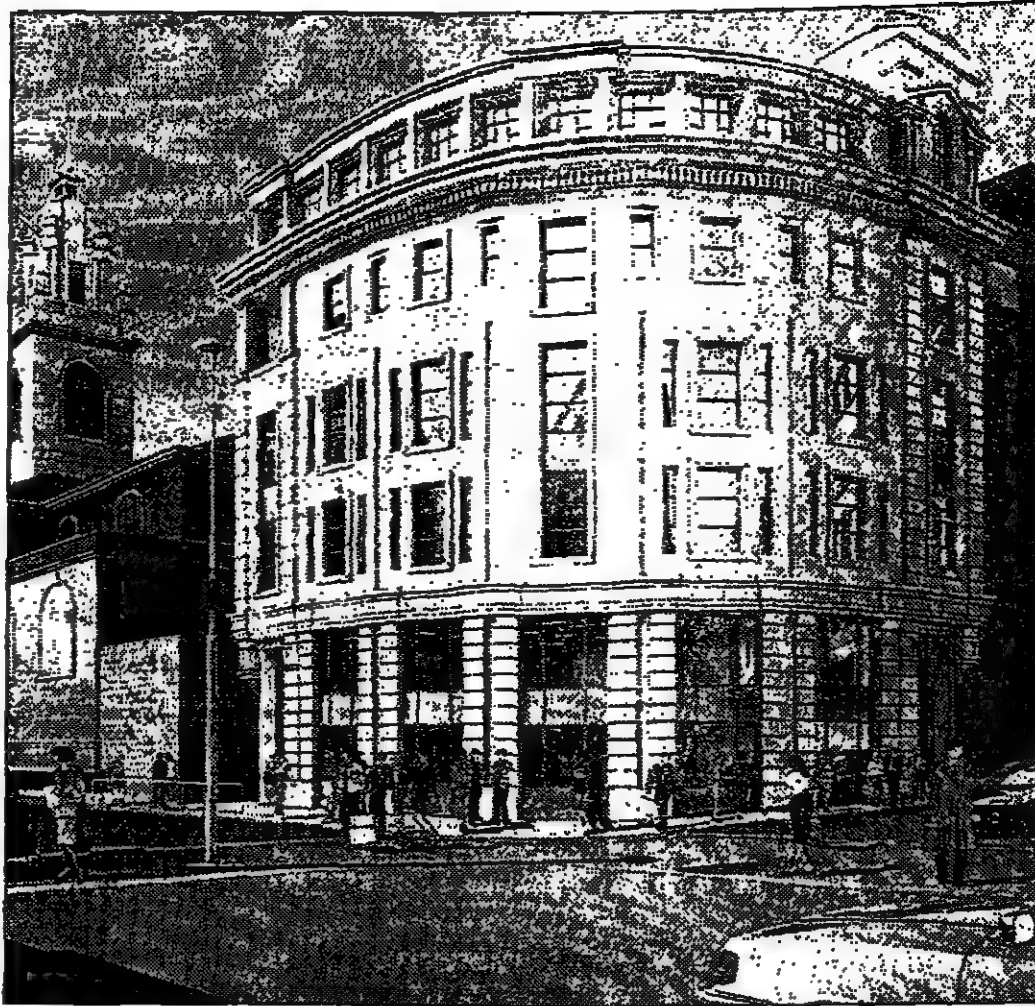
Examining the complaints, Vail Williams makes three recommendations to try to ensure that the mistakes of the 1980s are not repeated. The main one is that buildings larger than 25,000 sq ft should be left to a shell-and-core finish. The practice of providing fully fitted buildings, seen to be a marketing necessity, leads the

eventual occupier to carry out an expensive refitting or to settle for a compromise. Of the interviewees, 79 per cent preferred shell and core buildings.

A comprehensive check list covering the minutiae of design features should be compiled by the development team, Vail Williams says, and rigorously followed, and the measurement of buildings should be standard. Many companies looking for premises do not understand the difference between gross and net internal space, the report states. It recommends that the industry adopts gross internal figures for all business space buildings and that net internal figures should be quoted purely for comparative reasons.

The report concludes that occupiers would welcome the opportunity to explain their needs, particularly the way in which they use their space, yet the development industry to date "just does not seem to have taken any real interest, with one or two rare and notable exceptions".

Nick Wakeley, head of research at Vail Williams, says: "Without a feedback loop from customer to supplier, errors and oversights will simply recur from one generation of buildings to another. The needs of the occupier are paramount and they are not being satisfied. Only through a post-occupancy evaluation of buildings can we develop a clearer understanding of what they want."



Work has started on a 12,750 sq ft office building at 40 Queen Street, London EC4, to be carried out by Ortem Developments, the development trading subsidiary of MEPC. The company, chosen by City Corporation tender to redevelop the site, has exchanged contracts with the corporation to buy a 125-year leasehold interest in it. Designed by the Fitzroy Robinson Partnership, the building will have a French limestone facade and marble-lined entrance hall, with air-conditioning. The site, opposite Southwark Bridge, is adjacent to Wren's Church of St James's Garlickhythe, and demolition of the existing buildings was completed last year, with Ortem paying £50,000 for excavations by the Museum of London. Costain is carrying out the £3 million construction contract, and Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks are agents for the building, due for completion next spring.

IN THE MARKET

More offices on the water

■ Broadwell Land's 17-acre mixed development at Plantation Wharf on the south bank of the Thames at Battersea, London SW11, has received planning permission from Wandsworth Borough Council for phase four of the scheme. The development will contain 168,000 sq ft of offices, with a leisure centre that includes a swimming pool and gymnasium.

The offices will be in a 12-storey tower surrounded by three blocks of four storeys arranged around two piazzas. Plantation Wharf, with a proposed total of 1.6 million sq ft of offices, residential and leisure facilities, and a half-mile river frontage, is said to be the largest mixed development scheme in Britain outside London Dockland.

■ Telford Development Corporation has sold its freehold interest in the Telford Shopping Centre to the Universities Superannuation Scheme Limited (USS) for more than £100 million. The 700,000 sq ft single level shopping mall with two office/retail buildings forms the core of Telford Town Centre, an area of about 50 acres. USS, which has permission to redevelop a vacant 55,000 sq ft store, is to start a refurbishment programme for the centre.

■ Plans for a £50 million Leeds city centre riverside office and leisure complex have been granted planning permission by Leeds Development Corporation, after amendments to the original proposals. The scheme, Crown Point Wharf, which aims to regenerate 4.1 acres on the south bank of the River Aire and to provide 250,000 sq ft of offices, has been prepared for a consortium of landowners — Leeds City Development Company, Burns Dakin, John Hunt & Sons Ltd and LGH Storage. The joint agents are Houstons and Elliott Son & Boynton.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Continued From Previous Page

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WORLD CUP

WEDNESDAY JUNE 6 1990

EIGHT-PAGE GUIDE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY IAN STEWART/SIMON BRURY



National figures: Maurice Johnston (above), of Scotland, and Paul Gascoigne, of England, will carry the hopes of their respective countries when the World Cup finals get under way in Italy



Storm clouds gather above the road to glory

The fourteenth World Cup finals begin in Milan on Friday evening. England, Scotland, and the Republic of Ireland will all take part in the competition, which lasts a month, but the prospect gives David Miller, Chief Sports Correspondent, cause for alarm rather than optimism

João Havelange, the President of FIFA, this week sits proudly at the wheel of a juggernaut that is partly his own design: a massive World Cup final tournament of 24 teams, inflated by Havelange from 16 for the convenience of political vanities rather than for sport, and now in danger of lurching out of control in front of an audience approaching 30 billion.

Havelange has promised there will be absolute discipline from referees during the next month. By next Sunday, when we will have seen Argentina, Italy, Brazil, Romania and Yugoslavia, we shall already have some idea whether he can keep his promise.

We long to witness the lofty techniques of The Netherlands, the European champions, of a new, more calculating Brazil, of the multi-national Yugoslavs and the cup-holders Argentina; to see whether Italy, under the burden of every host nation's domestic expectation, will reveal their calm or their hysterical face. What we may all too probably be obliged to witness is disorder.

Whether this will occur in and around the stadiums of Italy, among frenzied local and visiting spectators, is something we cannot say. Beyond Havelange's influence, we are accustomed to the character and good name of football being at risk in the World Cup; that has been so for the past six or seven competitions, going back to Chile in 1962. What is now at stake is the existence of the competition itself, whether football, with its massive emotional overload of commercialism and nationalism, is creating something which society as a whole, never mind mere sports officials, can no longer contain.

Will we be reflecting, in 4½ weeks, on the sporting triumphs and disasters of a great event, or suggesting that the whole gargantuan structure should be dismantled and discontinued? Havelange, an unchallenged ruler within his own enclosed domain

of international football, is right to recognise, belatedly, that control of emotion and the proper application of the laws of the game have become critical to its continuing broader public acceptance.

For too long, FIFA has done too little about gross excesses on the pitch. Nobby Stiles, the bullying Russians and the sly Argentinians set a trend in 1966 that has moved progressively downhill, the beauty of fine teams such as Brazil, Netherlands and France being sufficient to override our dismay at other disfigurements. The Argentinian's gamesmanship in the 1978 final was wanton and calculated, that of Italy and West Germany in the 1982 final even worse. FIFA, meanwhile, dozed in the commercial sun.

Now, driven by the influence behind the scenes of Sepp Blatter, the general secretary, Havelange is responding to necessity with proposed strictures on refereeing attitudes. Whether the carabinieri, with the assistance in Sardinia of British police intelligence and Foreign Office rhetoric, will diffuse the ticking time-bombs of hooliganism that are rolling on a tide towards Italy, remains to be seen.

If they do not, then there must be further strong possibility of fatalities during the next month, a further blight upon the name of the game and possibly upon the national team. Such things should be acknowledged as possible now rather than viewed yet again with mock horror and surprise should they happen.

Let us for the moment suppose the carabinieri, and the referees, can cope, and talk about the football. About England. We should talk about them at the start, for on present form they are not likely to be there for long. There is no satisfaction in being wholly unsurprised, as I was, by the performance against Tunisia, for it had been apparent for a long time, to anyone with knowledge of levels of overseas performances,

that England had at best an average team. Bobby Robson has in the past year spent too much time involved in public relations hyperbole on behalf of his team, instead of finding a coherent formula which might eliminate mistakes.

I find it laughable that Robson, in defence of Butcher's childish shirt-throwing, when substituted in Tunisia, said that Butcher has his (Robson's) love of country: a comment that lacks impact coming a week after the confirmation that Robson is quitting England to work for better money in The Netherlands.

There are three reasons why you play your heart out for a manager (though, of course, you may do so irrespective of who is in charge): out of fear, emotional loyalty, or professional respect. Having abandoned the one virtue in his favour, dignity, Robson enters the World Cup commanding none of these three.

England, all too predictably after the endless oscillation and time-wasting experiments of the past half-dozen or more matches, approach the finals next Monday against Eire with a mirror image of their tactical dilemma in Mexico four years ago: Do they play two mobile strikers (Lineker and Beardsley both times) or stick in a big strong Football League clone (then Hateley, now Bull) who might frighten the timid? Or, for novelty, do they use Barnes, a winger still short on maturity, as a roving forward in support of but not co-ordinated with Lineker?

Do they use a play-maker (then Hoddle, now Gascoigne), and if so do they support him with one winger (then Waddle, now Waddle or Barnes), two wingers (both of them), or none (then Steven and McManis)? Is Webb fit enough to be considered? Indeed, is Robson, the captain?

And what about the most

pressing problem of all, the collapse of a supposedly sure defence, with Shilton suspect, Stevens and Butcher as vulnerable as in the European finals, Pearce's tackling a liability?

If all this looks confusing in print, just think what it must be like in the dressing-room and out there on the pitch, with a manager on the touchline who transparently isn't sure in his own mind, and anyway has a taxi waiting for him the moment the tired old bus finally runs out of fuel.

England have not looked in a worse state since Revie made his bizarre six team changes for the qualifying tie in Rome in 1977, lost 2-0, and decided life would be quieter and commercially more cushioned in the Gulf. Frankly, England now look beyond rescue as serious contenders. I can see them drawing against Eire, losing to Netherlands, then needing to win their third match with Egypt, drawing or even losing.

That is not pessimism but, from where I sit after almost 40 years looking at the professional game, simple realism.

The group of 24 finalists contains, in my opinion, two possibly exceptional sides (Netherlands and Brazil), six strong sides (Italy, West Germany, Argentina, Uruguay, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia), seven average teams (Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Eire, Romania, Spain, Sweden) five below average (Cameroon, Colombia, Egypt, Korea, Scotland) and three probable weak teams (Costa Rica, the Emirates and the United States). England, even with a no more than average team, properly organised, should therefore have had an outside chance, given eliminations elsewhere in the draw, of reaching the semi-final. That they have, on the face of it, no hope at all is, at the least, regrettable and at worst unprofessional. It would be a pleasure to be proved wrong.

The key to any team sport is producing a performance greater than the sum of the parts. This

Jack Charlton has done, though the pressure on the Republic of Ireland is zero compared to that on England and Robson. It would be no surprise for the Irish to finish second, to Netherlands, ahead of England. Third is the best prospect for Scotland in their group with Brazil, Sweden and Costa Rica; though I see no advantage in beginning against Costa Rica, whose confidence and optimism will be running at its highest.

Scotland have little going for them, with poor results and a pool substantially weaker than England's giving little hope of progress beyond the first round.

As quarter-finalists I would take the eight teams from my first categories of excellent and strong, with Spain and Austria as the other contenders. Although Brazil, with talented teams, have failed to reach the last two semi-final stages, they are taking measures with defensive organisation to overcome this, and we saw at Wembley that they still have an abundance of natural skill.

With Gullit seemingly fit in Milan's European Cup final victory, Netherlands must start favourites. Much will depend, as ever, on how much they care. An odd lot, the Dutch. Will Leo Beenhakker get them to work, and can they last a month? Mental endurance has become an important factor, which is why West Germany can never be ruled out. Italy's weakest mental phase, as always, will be the first round though they have a soft group.

Argentina depend so much on Maradona, who allegedly is fit and hungry for action. The greatest player of his generation, superior to Gullit or the Brazilians, he can inspire the Argentinians to reach the semi-final.

Mainly on sentiment, I take Brazil to defeat Netherlands in the final. Football, as Danny Blanchflower used to say, is primarily about glory, and the game needs Brazil to be setting a standard once more.

PREDICTIONS AND BETTING

The Times experts make their predictions for the World Cup

- | | |
|---|--|
| David Miller (Chief Sports Correspondent)
1 Brazil
2 The Netherlands
3 Italy
4 Argentina | Stuart Jones (Football Correspondent)
1 Brazil
2 The Netherlands
3 West Germany
4 Italy |
| Clive White (who will be covering Ireland's matches)
1 The Netherlands
2 West Germany
3 Italy
4 Brazil | Roddy Forsyth (who will be covering Scotland's matches)
1 West Germany
2 Italy
3 The Netherlands
4 Brazil |

Corals' odds against the winning team in the World Cup:
3 Italy, 7-2 The Netherlands, 4 Brazil, 6 West Germany, 10 England, 11 Argentina, 16 Spain, 18 Soviet Union, 33 Yugoslavia, Uruguay, 40 Czechoslovakia, Republic of Ireland, 50 Belgium, Romania, Sweden, 66 Scotland, 80 Austria, Colombia, 300 South Korea, 600 Cameroon, 1000 Costa Rica, Egypt, 1500 United Arab Emirates, 2000 United States.
Odds on leading goalscorers: 6 Marco van Basten (The Netherlands), 8 Gennaro Gattuso (Italy), 10 Gary Lineker (England), Diego Maradona (Argentina), 12 Rudi Voller (West Germany), 14 Roberto Baggio (Italy), 20 Rudi Voller (West Germany), Andrea Carnevale (Italy), Claudio Caniggia (Argentina).

THE TEAMS FOR TELEVISION

BETWEEN them, ITV and the BBC are estimated to be spending £12 million on coverage of this World Cup, and Eurosport another £2 million. But perhaps the biggest irony is that, while for the first time we will have satellite on offer in our sitting rooms, both ITV and the BBC, who boast of being "the terrestrial channels" will be using... satellites.

All three are taking the Italian TV service, and are topping up with their own camera units, bouncing interviews from the ground - and anything that blows up at training centres and hotels of the three home teams - back to these shores. Both the BBC and ITV are using portable satellite dishes, which will enable them to file 24 hours a day for the whole month.

Not one of the 626 footballers gathered in Italy will greet the opening whistle with a bigger sigh of relief than Brian Moore, not because the ITV commentator is apprehensive, merely that he cannot wait for the action to begin. "I am almost beside myself with excitement," he said.

Backing him in Italy will be Alan Parry, Gerry Harrison and John Helm, while the reporting team includes Gary Newson, Jim Rosenthal and Tony Francis. The England manager-elect, Graham Taylor, leads the opinion and comments team, with a supporting cast of Jimmy Greaves, Ian St John, Ron Atkinson, Emlyn Hughes, Rodney Marsh, Trevor Francis and Billy Liddell. Presenters are Nick Owen and Eilon Welsby.

Desmond Lynam heads the BBC line-up, backed up by Jimmy Hill and Bob Wilson. Their commentary team comprises John Motson, Tony Gubba, Barry Davies and Gerald Sinistadt, with David Davies in the England camp, Archie McPherson with the Scots, and Jim Nisely alongside Jack Charlton and Eire. Their team of analysts consists of Bobby Charlton, Trevor Brooking, Liam Brady, Kenny Dalglish, Ray Wilkins and Terry Venables.

Eurosport intend to cover "every second of all 62 games", complementing their live coverage with mammoth highlights every day. Their team in Italy is led by Lawrie McMenemy, David Fleet and Gerry Francis.

WORLD CUP



Graham Taylor will be commenting for *The Times* throughout the World Cup. Here he examines the skills of six players to watch

John Barnes (England). One of Barnes's great skills is in getting in a cross when in a tight situation. Ninety-nine players out of a hundred would have their cross blocked by the defender, but Barnes still gets his in. How? By achieving very early lift on his cross. If the defender is a yard away, the ball will go past him at thigh or even waist height, so it's much more difficult to intercept. It's much the same with free kicks. I can't remember Barnes ever putting the ball into the wall; he can lift the ball over the wall, and make it dip the ball once it's over. Barnes does it instinctively. It's the mark of a great player to be able to do things other players can't — and this is a skill which can't be taught; in fact, Barnes himself probably couldn't tell you how he does it.

Franco Baresi (Italy). He is a fine striker of long passes, and he is noted, too, for his surges from the back. His club, AC Milan, don't play the usual Italian way, but even in their back four, Baresi is usually a free man; for Italy, he will probably play as sweeper. For Milan, he hits a lot of 30 and 40-yard passes off his right foot up to Marco van Basten — eight or nine a game — and it's very unusual for an Italian defender to play the ball from back to front like that. His great pace and good control mark his advances from defence, and they raise the tempo of the game. He is a very important part of Milan's armoury. But will he be allowed to do the same things for Italy, or will he be crabbed and confined into a much more defensive role?

Ronnie Whelan (Republic of Ireland). He rarely has more than two or three touches at a time. He has good control, but, more importantly, he knows what he is going to do when he gets the ball. That's because he plays with his head up. As young players, we were always told: "Keep your eye on the ball", but in fact you must take your eyes off the ball and look around so you know what is going on. Whelan exemplifies that, and he also has enough ability to adapt if he sees his original intention isn't on; even then, he has the ability to change direction with a minimum of touches. He has a very sharp mind. The archetypal Liverpool method — "Get it, give it, move" — is very simple, but it's very difficult to do because a lot of players' minds aren't sharp enough. Whelan's is.



Maurice Johnston (Scotland). Watch how Johnston spins away as soon as he has laid off the ball to a support player, looking to get in behind or between defenders, particularly in the penalty box. Johnston is never still, he's always moving. The ability to do that is the hallmark of the top-class forward. If possible, try to see where he is, even when the ball doesn't come to him: what forwards do when the ball doesn't come to them can unsettle a defence. Scotland would have sorely missed Johnston had he failed to recover from a strained stomach muscle, but they have in Ally McCoist another player who has the ability to lay off the ball and then spin away and confuse defenders. In fact, Johnston and McCoist work together in this way for Rangers.



Jurgen Klinsmann (West Germany). His great talents are direct running with pace and power. In the 1988 European championship, he stood out by the way he attacked defenders by running straight at them — he's a big lad, which helps — and veering only at the last minute. If you go one side or the other of a defender too early, you telegraph your intentions and play into his hands, because a top-class defender will just shepherd you in that direction. Even the best defender don't like having to make last-minute adjustments. Since 1988 Klinsmann has had a year in Italy — has he lost this ability? He was always an erratic finisher, and his composure may have improved, but possibly at the cost of some of his eager, direct running. It will be interesting to find out.



Rene Higuita (Colombia). He's the player to bring a smile to our faces. The World Cup is serious business, but if football ever completely loses its ability to smile, and to make people smile, what's the point? He is rather like Bruce Grobbelaar — a very fine goalkeeper, and one who brings a smile to my lips when I watch him. Higuita will spend more time out of his penalty area than any other goalkeeper in the World Cup. He is also quite capable of dribbling past an attacker, even in his own penalty area, when he could handle the ball. I will remember the sole of the boot skill he showed to confound Peter Beardsley in the England versus Colombia match last year. He used to play in midfield for his club side, and he is the national team's penalty-taker.

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GROUP A

Italy

1. Walter Zenga (Inter Milan, goalkeeper); 2. Franco Baresi (AC Milan); 3. Giuseppe Bergomi (Inter Milan); 4. Luigi De Agostini (Juventus); 5. Ciro Ferrara (Napoli); 6. Riccardo Ferri (Milan); 7. Paolo Maldini (AC Milan); 8. Pietro Vierchowod (Sampdoria); 9. Carlo Ancelotti (AC Milan); 10. Nicolo Barbi (Inter Milan); 11. Fernando De Napoli (Napoli); 12. Stefano Teconi (Juventus, goalkeeper); 13. Giuseppe Giannini (AS Roma); 14. Giancarlo Marcolini (Juventus); 15. Roberto Mancini (Sampdoria); 16. Roberto Maggio (Juventus); 17. Andrea Carnevale (Napoli); 18. Roberto Donadoni (AC Milan); 19. Roberto Nelschi (Sampdoria); 20. Salvatore Schillaci (Juventus); 21. Aldo Serena (Inter Milan); 22. Gianluca Vialli (Sampdoria); 23. Gianluca Pagnani (Sampdoria, goalkeeper); Coach: Arrigo Vicini.

Austria

1. Klaus Lindenberger (FC Tirol, goalkeeper); 2. Ernst Almer (Austria Wien); 3. Robert Pech (Rapid Wien); 4. Anton Pfister (Austria Wien); 5. Peter Schuster (Rapid Wien); 6. Michael Baur (FC Swarovski Tirol); 7. Kurt Rusa (Vienna FC); 8. Peter Artner (Admira Wacker); 9. Anton Polster (Sevilla, Sp); 10. Manfred Lutzmeier (FC Swarovski Tirol); 11. Alfred Hurnthaler (FC Swarovski Tirol); 12. Michael Baur (FC Swarovski Tirol); 13. Andreas Ogier (Austria Wien); 14. Gerhard Rodax (Admira Wacker); 15. Christian Kogler (Rapid Wien); 16. Andreas Reisinger (Rapid Wien); 17. Helmut Plattenecker (Rapid Wien); 18. Rainer Kienast (Rapid Wien); 19. Gerald Glanzmayr (Vienna FC); 20. Andreas Herzog (Rapid Wien); 21. Michael Koller (Rapid Wien, goalkeeper); 22. Otto Konrad (Sturm Graz, goalkeeper); Coach: Josef Hickersberger.

United States

1. Tony Meola (Kearny, goalkeeper); 2. Steve Trachsel (Grants Cay); 3. John Doyle (Freemont); 4. Jimmy Banks (Milwaukee); 5. Keith Windischmann (Glendale); 6. John Harkes (Kearny); 7. Ted Rasmussen (Seattle); 8. Brian Rochford; 9. Chris Sullivan (Redwood City); 10. Peter Vermes (Doyle); 11. Eric Wynalda (Westchester); 12. Fred Kruger (Redondo Beach); 13. Eric Eichmann (Marquette); 14. John Stollmeyer (Annandale); 15. Desmond Armstrong (Washington); 16. Bruce Murray (Sarnia); 17. Marcello Bellone (Cerritos); 18. Kasey Keller

GROUP B

Argentina

1. Mario Kempes (Real Betis, Sp, goalkeeper); 2. Sergio Batista (River Plate); 3. Abel Balbo (Lidrose, It); 4. Jose Basualdo (NFS Stuttgart, WG); 5. Edgardo Bauza (Vera Cruz); 6. Gabriel Calderon (Paris Saint-Germain, Fr); 7. Jorge Luis Brown (Lidrose, It); 8. Claudio Caniggia (Atalanta, It); 9. Gustavo Dezotti (Carmichael, It); 10. Diego Maradona (Napoli, Fr); 11. Nestor Fabini (Racing Club); 12. Sergio Goycochea (Millonarios, Col, goalkeeper); 13. Oscar Ruggeri (Real Madrid, Sp); 14. Jose Simoni (Boca Juniors); 15. Pedro Troglio (Lazio, It); 16. Fabian Canabarro (Ferro Carril Oeste, goalkeeper); Coach: Carlos Bilardo.

Cameroon

1. Joseph-Antoine Bell (Bordeaux, Fr, goalkeeper); 2. Andre Kana Bolyik (Metz, Fr); 3. Jules Desile Ouma (Canon Yaounde); 4. Benjamin Masing (US Créteil); 5. Berta Ewelle (Tonnere Yaounde); 6. Eustache Kande (Canon Yaounde); 7. Franck Ombi

GROUP C

Brazil

1. Claudio Taffarel (Inter Porto Alegre); 2. Jorgeinho (Bayer Leverkusen, WG); 3. Ricardo Gomes (Borussia Dortmund, WG); 4. Dunga (Flamengo, It); 5. Altemar (Napoli, It); 6. Branco (FC Porto, Pt); 7. Bismark (Vasco de Gama); 8. Vales (Borussia Dortmund, WG); 9. Carlos Roberto (Flamengo, It); 10. Silas (Sporting Lisbon, Pt); 11. Romario (PSV Eindhoven, Neth); 12. Acazio (Vasco de Gama, goalkeeper); 13. Jose Mazer (Maracanã, It); 14. Aldair (Borussia Dortmund, WG); 15. Muller (Torino, It); 16. Bebeto (Vasco de Gama); 17. Renato (Flamengo); 18. Mazinho (Vasco de Gama); 19. Ricardo Rocha (São Paulo); 20. Tita (Vasco de Gama); 21. Mauro Galvão (Botafogo); 22. Zé Carlos (Flamengo, goalkeeper); Coach: Sebastião Lazaroni.

Sweden

1. Sven Andersson (Örgryte IS, goalkeeper); 2. Jan Eriksson (AIK); 3. Peter Larsson (AIK); 4. Roger Ljung (BSC Young Boys, Sw); 5. Roland Nilsson (Sheff Wednesday, Eng); 6. Niklas Nyhlen-Larsson (Malmö); 7. Stefan Schwarz (Malmö); 8. Leif Engqvist (Malmö); 9. Klas Ingesson (IFK Göteborg); 10. Ulf Johansson (Östers IF); 11. Erik Johansson (Norwegian, goalkeeper); 12. Anders Limpar (Cromones, It); 13. Jostein Nilsson (Malmö); 14. Stenhammar (Atalanta, It); 15. Jonas Thörn (Borussia Dortmund, WG); 16. Mats Gren (Grasshopper Zürich, Sw); 17. Tomas Brohn (IFK Norrby); 18. Thomas Ravelli (IFK Göteborg, goalkeeper); Coach: Ole Nordmark.

Costa Rica

1. Gabato Conejo (San Ramon, goalkeeper); 2. Vladimir Chaves (Deportivo Saprissa); 3. Roger Flores (Deportivo Saprissa); 4. Ronald González (Deportivo Saprissa); 5. Mario Osorio (Herediano); 6. Jose Carlos Chaves (Alajuelense); 7. Hernan Medford (Deportivo Saprissa); 8. German Chaverria (Herediano); 9. Alexander Guzmán (Deportivo Saprissa); 10. Oscar Ramírez (Alajuelense); 11. Claudio Jara (Herediano); 12. Roger Gomez (Cartago); 13. Miguel Davis (Alajuela); 14. Juan Arce

GROUP D

West Germany

1. Bodo Illgner (FC Cologne); 2. Stefan Reuter (Bayer Munich); 3. Andreas Brehme (Inter Milan, It); 4. Jürgen Kohler (Bayer Munich); 5. Klaus Augenthaler (Bayer Munich); 6. Guido Buchwald (VFB Stuttgart); 7. Frank Schuster (Cologne); 8. Thomas Häßler (Juventus, It); 9. Rudi Völler (AS Roma, It); 10. Lothar Matthäus (Inter Milan, It); 11. Frank Pflüger (Borussia Dortmund); 12. Raimond Aumann (Bayer Munich, goalkeeper); 13. Karl-Heinz Riedle (AS Roma, It); 14. Thomas Berthold (AS Roma, It); 15. Uwe Bein (Eintracht Frankfurt); 16. Paul Steiner (FC Cologne); 17. Andreas Hinkel (Borussia Dortmund); 18. Jürgen Klinsmann (Inter Milan, It); 19. Hans-Peter Hähnel (Bayer Munich); 20. Olaf Thon (Bayer Munich); 21. Gerd Hermann (Werder Bremen); 22. Andreas Köpcke (FC Nürnberg, goalkeeper); Coach: Frank Beckenbauer.

Yugoslavia

1. Tomislav Ivkovic (Sporting Lisbon, Pt, goalkeeper); 2. Vukobrat Stankovic (Partizan Belgrade); 3. Predrag Spasic (Partizan Belgrade); 4. Zoran Vukobratovic (Mladost, Sp); 5. Fehmi Hadzovic

Names, numbers and clubs of all 24 squads in the

ix groups

21. Jon Luykens (Dynamo Bucharest); 22. George Hlucac (Petroci, goalkeeper); Coach: Iosif Iosif.

GROUP C

Brazil

1. Claudio Taffarel (Inter Porto Alegre); 2. Jorgeinho (Bayer Leverkusen, WG); 3. Ricardo Gomes (Borussia Dortmund, WG); 4. Dunga (Flamengo, It); 5. Altemar (Napoli, It); 6. Branco (FC Porto, Pt); 7. Bismark (Vasco de Gama); 8. Vales (Borussia Dortmund, WG); 9. Carlos Roberto (Flamengo, It); 10. Silas (Sporting Lisbon, Pt); 11. Romario (PSV Eindhoven, Neth); 12. Acazio (Vasco de Gama, goalkeeper); 13. Jose Mazer (Maracanã, It); 14. Aldair (Borussia Dortmund, WG); 15. Muller (Torino, It); 16. Bebeto (Vasco de Gama); 17. Renato (Flamengo); 18. Mazinho (Vasco de Gama); 19. Ricardo Rocha (São Paulo); 20. Tita (Vasco de Gama); 21. Mauro Galvão (Botafogo); 22. Zé Carlos (Flamengo, goalkeeper); Coach: Sebastião Lazaroni.

Sweden

1. Sven Andersson (Örgryte IS, goalkeeper); 2. Jan Eriksson (AIK); 3. Peter Larsson (AIK); 4. Roger Ljung (BSC Young Boys, Sw); 5. Roland Nilsson (Sheff Wednesday, Eng); 6. Niklas Nyhlen-Larsson (Malmö); 7. Stefan Schwarz (Malmö); 8. Leif Engqvist (Malmö); 9. Klas Ingesson (IFK Göteborg); 10. Ulf Johansson (Östers IF); 11. Erik Johansson (Norwegian, goalkeeper); 12. Anders Limpar (Cromones, It); 13. Jostein Nilsson (Malmö); 14. Stenhammar (Atalanta, It); 15. Jonas Thörn (Borussia Dortmund, WG); 16. Mats Gren (Grasshopper Zürich, Sw); 17. Tomas Brohn (IFK Norrby); 18. Thomas Ravelli (IFK Göteborg, goalkeeper); Coach: Ole Nordmark.

Costa Rica

1. Gabato Conejo (San Ramon, goalkeeper); 2. Vladimir Chaves (Deportivo Saprissa); 3. Roger Flores (Deportivo Saprissa); 4. Ronald González (Deportivo Saprissa); 5. Mario Osorio (Herediano); 6. Jose Carlos Chaves (Alajuelense); 7. Hernan Medford (Deportivo Saprissa); 8. German Chaverria (Herediano); 9. Alexander Guzmán (Deportivo Saprissa); 10. Oscar Ramírez (Alajuelense); 11. Claudio Jara (Herediano); 12. Roger Gomez (Cartago); 13. Miguel Davis (Alajuela); 14. Juan Arce

WORLD CUP

Fond memories of the stuff of dreams

David Miller, who will be attending his ninth World Cup finals, looks back on some of the great matches of the past 40 years

I am fortunate. When I first began watching the World Cup, back in what we can now see were truly the Glorious Fifties, football was still an adventure. The game was essentially about great players, not managers and tactics. To a schoolboy in England, the heroes of 1950 — Andrade and Schiaffino, of Uruguay, Zizinho and Ademir, of Brazil — were mystic, unseen figures.

In 1954, as a penniless student, I could not afford to spend my summer vacation travelling to Switzerland to see the men who had mesmerised us at Wembley the previous autumn, the magical Hungarians. So I had to browse through the dispatches of Geoffrey Green as he unfolded for us the gallant failure of Matthews, Lofthouse and Finney against Uruguay in the semi-final — betrayed by Merrick in goal — and of West Germany's shock defeat of Hungary in the final, inspired by the brothers Walther, by Rahn and Schuster on the wings.

Wingers! What wonderful days those were. Wee Ormond for Scotland, Zebec and the incomparable Mitutinovic for Yugoslavia, Budai and Czibor of Hungary, Julinho for Brazil, Cappello for Italy. And four years later, now a sub-editor with *The Times*, there I was in Sweden, exploiting the fact that all four British teams had qualified, taking my holiday and being paid a princely six guineas a match to see the stuff of dreams.

Now the carefree, wandering minstrels of Northern Ireland: a touring village band of laughter and irreverence under the guidance of lovely Peter Doherty, inspired by Blanchflower and McIlroy, with Bingham and McFarland on the wings, holding the mighty Germans to a draw, beating Czechoslovakia in a play-off, failing to brilliant France with Kopa and the rest, in the quarter-final.

Now the Scots: beginning their catalogue of World Cup accidents against lowly Paraguay. Now the Welsh, with Big John and Chivy and Ivo, eliminating Hungary for a place in the quarter-final. What a carnival it was, what a pleasure for journalists, mixing amiably in the dressing room with players, securing something unconsidered, the passion everything, the price an irrelevance.

Just a note of technical caution was to be detected here and there. Bill Nicholson, who was assisting Walter Winterbottom, England's manager, reported that Didi, the Black Pearl, was the mainspring of Brazil; and Slater was detailed to shadow him to such an effect that England were the only opponents against whom the even-

tual winners of the trophy failed to score.

The unveiling of Pele was something yet to happen, against Russia in Brazil's near-match. It was a scrappy, half-cock first World Cup goal that Pele scored to put out Wales in the quarter-final, but we would never forget the majesty of the 17-year-old's performance in the final against Sweden when Brazil swept to a 5-2 victory. In the dawn of televised sport, the global reputation of the World Cup was indestructibly forged by a nation who played the game with an idiosyncrasy no one would ever surpass.

In Chile, they won again, though with less ecstasy, Pele being injured in the second half and being replaced thereafter by Amarildo. A memorable recovery at Vina Del Mar — formerly colonialist haven of Valparaiso — coming from 1-0 against Spain and watched by a crowd of less than 20,000, was one of the finest matches I ever saw. Spain, though without Di Stefano — who was injured and never played in a final competition — were in full flood with Puskas and Gento, but an unforgettable performance by Gylmar in goal and two goals by Amarildo set Brazil en route to the final.

I had seen the marvellous Czechoslovakia, built around the Dulka club, survive a momentous qualifying play-off against Scotland in Brussels. In the final, they led by a goal from the dapper Masopust, but the skills of Zito, Didi and Garrincha — destroyer of England in the quarter-final — proved too much. Garrincha was a mezzor across football's sky whose only equal, in the opinion of Didi, has been Matthews.

Functionalism was increasingly the formula of the Sixties, as Brazil's 4-2-4 and Hungary's 3-3-4 — almost suicidal by today's defensively neurotic standards — gave way to 4-3-3. Poor old Alf Ramsey. In 1966 he won a World Cup and a knighthood, yet is forever remembered, unfairly, as the manager who abolished wingers. And he had some: Thompson, Connolly, Paine.

But Ramsey wanted what Bobby Robson needs. Reliability. So he fashioned a team, following a goalless opening yawn against Uruguay, with two young men on the flanks, Ball and Peters, who were the most industrious, and intelligent to play for England.

The formation was said to be 4-3-3, but in reality was closer to 4-4-2, with Hurst and Hunt up front and Bobby Charlton playing loose in behind them. Bobby Charlton, my contemporary, my personal hero, who had made the hair on your neck stand up



Birth of a legend: Pele, right, aged 17, scores one of his two goals in the 1958 World Cup final. The competition's global reputation was indestructibly forged

every time he received the ball and began that flowing wild-force-in-the-sun run.

And now England, and Ramsey, progressed gingerly, beating Mexico and France, getting involved in a fierce battle with Argentina, overthrowing Portugal; and finally, controversially, but in most people's view justifiably, beating West Germany in extra time with the third goal that was no more disputable than the free kick which led to Germany's equaliser at the end of normal time.

That was then, and still seems now, a match almost perfect in its fluctuation, its drama, its sportsmanship, its classic lines. It is sobering to recall, in contemporary context, that when Ray Wilson made the heading misjudgement that gave Haller the opening goal, it was his first unforced error in six matches.

There was a view that the best team of 1966, Brazil and Pele being brutally cut down, was Hungary. The tournament was notable for a foul

every three minutes, but in 1970 in Mexico, the conditions of heat and altitude reducing the physical challenge, we revelled in one of the unforgettable teams. And again it was Brazil's. Their early meeting with England was like Ali v Frazier. One punch by Jairzinho decided it, as for an hour in the heat of Guadalajara we clenched our fingers in anxiety and fascination during a dual of almost unrivalled tactical intelligence.

What a giant was Moore; he should have led England on to the final, but fate twisted an impregnable two-goal lead against West Germany in the quarter-final into agonised extra-time defeat, and we were left to bask in Brazil's glory. The command of Carlos Alberto, the subtlety of Gerson and Clodoaldo, the arrogance of Rivelino, the arrowhead of Jairzinho, the gimlets of Tostao ... and Pele. It was a rapturous pinnacle of the beautiful game.

Could such artistry, collective and individual, ever be repeated? The Dutch, for the next two tournaments, were to

prove it could, collectively and occasionally individually, yet were to lose both finals. Their combined play in 1974 was indeed superior, in my opinion, to Brazil, reminiscent of Hungary in the Fifties. Nine men would occasionally ride into attack. No angle, no conception was too obtuse for their 'total football'. Cruyff was as influential as Pele, and when they destroyed Argentina 4-0 in the opening round and Brazil in the semi-final, they seemed unbeatable. But West Germany up-ended them, because the Dutch foolishly took victory for granted after a 90-second opening

goal. In Argentina, they again were the best team, though both Argentina, the winners, and Italy at times played some glorious football. The Dutch were cruelly treated in the final by a malleable Italian referee, and after dominating much of the match were defeated by a side shrewdly constructed by Menotti, cleverly marshalled by Ardiles, and led from the front by Kempes.

The finals of 1982 are largely best forgotten, apart from Northern Ireland's sweet night of triumph over Spain in Valencia. The majority of

matches were dull and sterile, and so, for an hour, was the final, a disgraceful exhibition between Italy and West Germany of negative, fouling tactics that was only restored to some sanity when Italy finally went in front and won the match with some style in the last 20 minutes.

Another average England side carried the flag to Mexico in 1986, and was lucky to survive the first round, rescued by the brilliance of Lineker. The tournament was notable for the enterprise and imagination of an Argentine side that was capable in any match of explosive moments

built around Maradona that no defence could contain.

The reputation of the tournament, and of the winners, was distorted by a bizarre, historic handled goal by Maradona against England in the quarter-final that was in no way representative of the football that overpowered West Germany in the final. Once Brazil, failing to fulfil their potential for the second successive tournament, had fallen to France in a wonderful quarter-final on penalties at the end of 120 breathless minutes. Argentina were clearly the best and there was no cause to begrudge them.

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United Arab Emirates
1, Abdullah Moosa (Abdullah Al-Ahly, goal-keeper); 2, Khalid Ghannam (Mubarak Al-Khaleel); 3, Ali Thani Juma (Sharjah); 4, Mubarak Ghannam (Mubarak Al-Khaleel); 5, Abdullah Ali Sultan (Al-Khaleel); 6, Abdulrahman Mohammed Abdul-Ahly (Al-Nasr); 7, Fahad Khamees (Mubarak Al-Wasl); 8, Khalid Juma (Mubarak Al-Nasr); 9, Abdul Aziz Mohammed (Sharjah); 10, Adnan Khamees Al-Talibani (Al-Shabab); 11, Zuhair Bakheet Saad (Al-Wasl); 12, Hussain Ghannam (Abdullah Al-Ahly); 13, Nasser Khamees (Mubarak Al-Wasl); 14, Nasser Khamees (Mubarak Al-Wasl); 15, Ibrahim Meer Abdulrahman (Sharjah); 16, Mohammed Salem (Mubarak Al-Wasl); 17, Mubarak (Mubarak Al-Wasl); 18, Fahad Abdulrahman (Abdullah Al-Wasl); 19, Elias Meer Abdulrahman (Sharjah); 20, Yousef (Sharjah); 21, Mohammed (Sharjah); 22, Abdul Qader Hassan (Al-Shabab). Coach: Carlos Alberto Pereira.

Colombia
1, Jose Rene Higuita (National, goal-keeper); 2, Andres Escobar (Guerrero Junior); 3, SSC Young Boys (Switzerland); 4, Luis Fernando Herrera (National); 5, Leon Fernando Villa (National); 6, Ricardo Perez (National); 7, Carlos Enrique Estrada (Millonarios); 8, Jaime Gomez (Independiente Medellin); 9, Miguel Guerrero (Junior); 10, Valderama (Independiente Medellin); 11, Bernardo Gomez (Independiente Medellin); 12, Eduardo Nino (Santa Fe, goal-keeper); 13, Carlos Mario Hoyos (Athletico Junior); 14, Luis Carlos Perez (National); 15, Amoldo

Ignacio (Millonarios); 17, Giovanni Casanova (Independiente Medellin); 18, Walter Cabrera (Santa Fe); 19, Freddy Rincon (America); 20, Alex Jorj (Fleury); 21, Alex Jorj (Fleury); 22, Alex Jorj (Fleury). Coach: Francisco Melendez.

GROUP E
Belgium
1, Michel Preud'homme (Mechelen); 2, Eric Gares (PSV Eindhoven, Netherlands); 3, Philippe Albert (Mechelen); 4, Leo Claessens (Mechelen); 5, Bruno Versavel (Mechelen); 6, Marc Emmers (Mechelen); 7, Stephane Demol (PSV Eindhoven); 8, Franky Verbeeck (Sporting Genk, goal-keeper); 9, Marc Degryse (RSC Anderlecht); 10, Enzo Scifo (Anderlecht); 11, Jan Caestelein (FC Brugge); 12, Gilbert Sodani (Standard Liege, goal-keeper); 13, Georges Grün (RSC Anderlecht); 14, Mico Cassen (Antwerp); 15, Rene Vautour (Standard Liege); 16, Michel de Wolf (Courtrai); 17, Pascal Ploive (Antwerp); 18, Lorenzo Staelens (FC Brugge); 19, Marc van der Linden (RSC Anderlecht); 20, Filip de Wilde (RSC Anderlecht, goal-keeper); 21, Marc Wilmots (Mechelen); 22, Patrick Vervout (RSC Anderlecht). Coach: Guy Thys.

South Korea
1, Kim Pung-Joo (Daewoo, goal-keeper); 2, Park Kyung-Ho (Pohang Iron and Steel); 3, Choi Kang-Hyeon (Hyundai); 4, Yoon Deuk-Yoo (Hyundai); 5, Chung Yong-Hwan (Daewoo); 6, Lee Tae-Hoo (Daewoo); 7, Heo Seon-Jin (Yokohama); 8, Chung Hae-Il (Yokohama); 9, Kim Gwang-Soo (Yokohama); 10, Lee Sang-Yoon (Ilhwa); 11, Byun Byung-Joo (Hyundai); 12, Lee Heung-Sil (Lucky Goldstar); 13, Chung Jong-Soo (Yokohama); 14, Choi Sun-Ho (Lucky Goldstar); 15, Cho Min-Kook (Lucky Goldstar); 16, Kim Joo-Sung (Daewoo); 17, Gu Sang-Bum (Lucky Goldstar); 18, Hwang Seon-Hong (Korhok University); 19, Jeong Gi-Dong (Pohang Iron and Steel); 20, Hong Myung-Soo (Korea University); 21, Choi In-Yong (Hyundai); 22, Lee Young-Jin (Lucky Goldstar). Coach: Hoo-Taik Lee.

Uruguay
1, Fernando Abec (Poneral, goal-keeper); 2, Nelson Gutierrez (Venezuela); 3, Hugo De Leon (River Plate, Argentina); 4, Jose Herrera (Figueroa); 5, Carlos Nino (Santos, Brazil); 6, Alfonso Dominguez (Poneral); 7, Antonio Alzamendi (Logronos, Spain); 8, Santiago Ochoaiza (Cruz Azul); 9, Edo

Francisco (Marseille, France); 10, Ruben Paz (Girona); 11, Ruben Soza (Lazio, Italy); 12, Eduardo Barthe (Independiente, Argentina, goal-keeper); 13, Felipe Revelez (National); 14, Jose Pintos Saldaña (National); 15, Carlos Curro (River Plate, Argentina); 16, Pablo Sanchez (Santos, Brazil); 17, Sergio Martinez (Defensor); 18, Carlos Aguilera (Girona); 19, Luis (Nacional); 20, Ruben Pereira (Danubio); 21, William Castro (National); 22, Adolfo Zola (Tenerife, Spain, goal-keeper). Coach: Oscar M. Tabarez.

GROUP F
England
1, Peter Shilton (Derby County, goal-keeper); 2, Gary Stevens (Rangers); 3, Stuart Pearce (Nottingham Forest); 4, Neil Webb (Manchester United); 5, Des Walker (Nottingham Forest); 6, Terry Butcher (Rangers); 7, Bryan Robson (Manchester United); 8, Chris Waddle (Marseille); 9, Gary Beardsley (Liverpool); 10, Peter Lineker (Tottenham Hotspur); 11, John Barnes (Liverpool); 12, Paul Parker (Queens Park Rangers); 13, Chris Woods (Rangers, goal-keeper); 14, Mark Wright (Derby County); 15, Tony Donge (Chelsea); 16, Steve Hodge (Liverpool); 17, David Platt (Aston Villa); 18, Steve Hodge (Nottingham Forest); 19, Paul Gascoigne (Tottenham Hotspur); 20, Trevor Steven (Rangers); 21, Steven Bull (Wolverhampton Wanderers); 22, David Seaman (Arsenal, goal-keeper). Manager: Bobby Robson.

Republic of Ireland
1, Pat Bonser (Celtic); 2, Chris

Morris (Celtic); 3, Steve Staunton (Liverpool); 4, Mick McCarthy (Millwall); 5, Kevin Moran (Blackburn Rovers); 6, Ronnie Whelan (Liverpool); 7, Paul McGrath (Aston Villa); 8, Ray Houghton (Liverpool); 9, John Aldridge (Real Sociedad, Spain); 10, Tony Casciaro (Aston Villa); 11, Kevin Sheedy (Everton); 12, David O'Leary (Arsenal); 13, Andrew Townsend (Chelsea); 14, Chris Hughton (Tottenham Hotspur); 15, Bernie Slaven (Middlesbrough); 16, John Sheridan (Sheffield Wednesday); 17, Neil Quinn (Manchester City); 18, Frank Stapleton (Blackburn Rovers); 19, David Kelly (Leicester City); 20, John Byrne (Le Havre, France); 21, Alan McLaughlin (Swindon Town); 22, Gerard Peyton (AFC Bournemouth). Manager: Jack Charlton.

The Netherlands
1, Hans van Breukelen (PSV Eindhoven, goal-keeper); 2, Berry van Aerle (PSV Eindhoven); 3, Frank Rijkard (AC Milan, Italy); 4, Ronald Koeman (Barcelona, Spain); 5, Aron van Tilburg (RSC Anderlecht, Belgium); 6, Jan Wouters (Ajax); 7, Ernst Koenen (Mechelen, Belgium); 8, Gerald Veenendaal (PSV Eindhoven); 9, Marco van Basten (AC Milan, Italy); 10, Ruud Gullit (AC Milan, Italy); 11, Richard Wittebeek (Ajax); 12, Wim Kieft (PSV Eindhoven); 13, Guus Huisman (Mechelen, Belgium); 14, Johnny Van't Schip (Ajax); 15, Bryan Roy (Ajax); 16, Joop Hiele (Feyenoord, goal-keeper); 17, Jansel Vissers (Aberdeen, Scotland); 18, Henk Fraser (Roda JC Kerkrade); 19, Johnny van Loon (Roda JC Kerkrade); 20, Aaron Winter (Ajax); 21, Danny Smit (Ajax); 22, Steen Mezzo (Ajax, goal-keeper). Coach: Leo Beenhakker.

Egypt
1, Ahmed Shobier (Al-Ahly, goal-keeper); 2, Ibrahim Hassan (Al-Ahly); 3, Rabe Youssef (Al-Ahly); 4, Hani Ramzi (Al-Ahly); 5, Hossam Yassin (Zamalek); 6, Ashraf Kassem (Zamalek); 7, Ismail Youssef (Zamalek); 8, Magdi Abdel El Ghazal (Suez, Egypt); 9, Hossam Hassan (Al-Ahly); 10, Gamal Abdel El Hamid (Zamalek); 11, Tarek Soliman (Neuchâtel Xamax, Switzerland); 12, Tarek Abdel Zaid (Al-Ahly); 13, Ahmed Ramzi (Zamalek); 14, Alaa Meshob (Al-Ahly); 15, Saber Eid (Mehallah); 16, Magdi Tolba (Zamalek); 17, Ayman Shewky (Al-Ahly); 18, Osama Orabi (Al-Ahly); 19, Adel Abdel El Rahman (Al-Ahly); 20, Ahmed El Kass (Olympic Alexandria); 21, Ayman Tamer (Zamalek, goal-keeper); 22, Saad El Beral (Al-Ahly, goal-keeper). Coach: Mahmoud El Gohary.

all 24 squads in...

GROUP A

Sat June 9 (8pm) Rome

ITV: Live, Eurosport: Live

ITALY	AUSTRIA
Scorers	

Sun June 10 (4pm) Florence

ITV: Live

UNITED STATES	CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Scorers	

Thur June 14 (8pm) Rome

Eurosport: Live

ITALY	UNITED STATES
Scorers	

Fri June 15 (4pm) Florence

BBC2: Live, ITV: Highlights, Eurosport: Recorded

AUSTRIA	CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Scorers	

Tue June 19 (8pm) Rome

ITV: Live, Eurosport: Recorded

ITALY	CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Scorers	

Tue June 19 (8pm) Florence

ITV: Highlights, Eurosport: Live

AUSTRIA	UNITED STATES
Scorers	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Points
Italy							
Czechoslovakia							
Austria							
United States							

GROUP B

Fri June 8 (5pm) Milan

BBC1: Highlights, ITV: Live, Eurosport: Live

ARGENTINA	CAMEROON
Scorers	

Sat June 9 (4pm) Bari

BBC1: Live, ITV: Highlights, Eurosport: Recorded

SOVIET UNION	ROMANIA
Scorers	

Wed June 13 (8pm) Naples

ITV: Live, Eurosport: Live

ARGENTINA	SOVIET UNION
Scorers	

Thur June 14 (4pm) Bari

ITV: Highlights, Eurosport: Recorded

CAMEROON	ROMANIA
Scorers	

Mon June 18 (8pm) Naples

BBC2: Live, Eurosport: Live

ARGENTINA	ROMANIA
Scorers	

Mon June 18 (8pm) Bari

Eurosport: Recorded

CAMEROON	SOVIET UNION
Scorers	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Points
Argentina							
Soviet Union							
Romania							
Cameroon							

GROUP C

Sun June 10 (8pm) Turin

BBC1: Live, Eurosport: Live

BRAZIL	SWEDEN
Scorers	

Mon June 11 (4pm) Genoa

ITV: Live, Eurosport: Live

COSTA RICA	SCOTLAND
Scorers	

Sat June 16 (4pm) Turin

ITV: Live, Eurosport: Live

BRAZIL	COSTA RICA
Scorers	

Sat June 16 (8pm) Genoa

BBC1: Live in Scotland, ITV: Highlights, Eurosport: Recorded

SWEDEN	SCOTLAND
Scorers	

Wed June 20 (8pm) Turin

ITV: Live, Eurosport: Live

BRAZIL	SCOTLAND
Scorers	

Wed June 20 (8pm) Genoa

ITV: Recorded, Eurosport: Recorded

SWEDEN	COSTA RICA
Scorers	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Points
Brazil							
Sweden							
Scotland							
Costa Rica							



Close to his peak: Polster's selfishness could be Austria's greatest asset

THE present Austrian side may be a far cry from the "wunderteam" of the Thirties, but in Anton "Toni" Polster, at least, they possess a worthy successor to the great forwards of their distinguished past (Clive White writes).

It is not for want of trying that Polster has failed, so far, to emulate the achievement of Krackle, the last great Austrian forward and the only one in the country's history to win the Golden Boot, awarded to Europe's top scorer.

Polster, the Seville forward, was in contention for the award this season until the last few weeks. In 1986 he won the Bronze Boot, and still believes he deserved first prize the following year when his haul of 39 goals was overtaken in suspicious circumstances by Camatru, the Romanian.

Polster declined to attend the presentation ceremony and refused the Silver award. He is a proud man. Prior to the decisive World Cup qualifying match against East Germany in November, he was reviled in the media for being "too soft, self-centred and inconsistent",

and was jeered by his own supporters. Consequently, after he had shown just how wonderfully selfish he can be by scoring all three goals in the game, he saw no reason to share his celebration with anyone, and made straight for the dressing room at the final whistle. "I didn't want to be a scapegoat if we had been unsuccessful, and I don't want to be a hero now we have qualified," he said.

But Polster, who only last autumn vowed never to play for his country again, will find it hard to avoid a lap of honour should Austria triumph in Italy. After the way they struggled to qualify that would seem unlikely, but Austria's opening group includes arguably the weakest of all the qualifiers, the United States, and Austria play them after Italy and Czechoslovakia have had a chance to soften them up.

Tall but supple, Polster is a fine dribbler, and an even better finisher. At 26 years old, he will never be closer to his peak in a World Cup even if they staged the finals in the Tirol.

Classical midfielder general: Hagi's best may be yet to come

THE great midfield players tend to reach their peak in their maturity, when cunning and experience have added an extra dimension to their play (Peter Ball writes). By that reckoning, Gheorghe Hagi, aged 25, is still not quite there, and will actually be at his best for the 1994 World Cup, providing the riches said to be awaiting him in Italy do not take the edge off his appetite on the field.

If he can get even better he will be some player, for Hagi already looks a considerable talent. An international at 18, he is the key creative player for the down, generally defensive Romanian side, and for Steaua Bucharest, whom he joined just after their European Cup victory against Barcelona.

That game will probably go down as the worst final in the history of the competition. With Hagi installed, Steaua at least looked a marginally more interesting side last season in the defeat by Milan. If Romania now decide to give him his head, we could be in for a treat, for there will be few better players in Italy this summer.

He has been proclaimed the best Romanian player of all time, and dubbed "the Maradona of the Carpathians" by his admirers — a tribute which owes something to his build and dark brows, but more to his ability to manoeuvre a football. The resemblance cannot be taken too far, even though Hagi is a consistent scorer from midfield. He can beat his man, but it is the vision of his passing which is his great asset rather than the long, twisting runs so characteristic of Maradona.

Hagi is in many ways the classical midfielder general, constantly on the ball and controlling his side's attacks, directing operations with his passing, frequently to his Steaua colleague, the dangerous Lacatus. He is also a fine finisher, and has an eye for where a chance is likely to occur, timing his breaks forward shrewdly.

If he can keep his temper in the face of provocation and at the same time not allow tight marking to force him too deep, he could emerge as one of the stars of the tournament.

Gifted individual: can Careca assume centre stage for his team, Brazil?

THREE years ago, when Maradona described Careca, his new club colleague from Brazil, as "the best forward in the world", one should have guessed that modesty had nothing to do with it (Clive White writes). Maradona was merely flattering the ego of a player who, we have since discovered, is probably the best supporting forward in the world.

For three seasons now at Napoli, Careca has happily played a vital second fiddle, or perhaps one ought to say second Stradivarius, to the world's greatest soloist, Maradona. Now the time has come, at the age of 29, for Antonio de Oliveira Filho to assume centre stage and attempt to justify the Argentine's lavish praise.

One has only to look at his performance in the last World Cup finals in Mexico to see how good an individualist Careca can be. His five-goal haul in the tournament made him the second highest scorer to Linaker. He has repeated that feat during the qualifying stages of this World Cup, scoring all four goals in one game against Ven-

ezuela. But for all that, Sebastiao Lazaroni, the manager, is still torn between selecting two forwards, in keeping with Brazil's new concern for defence, or a more traditionally adventurous three.

Careca, at least, is assured of a place in the starting line-up. He will need to be at his most courageous, a quality of his about which there has been some disagreement over the years.

Maradona once said of Careca: "The more they kick him, the better he plays, the more dangerous he becomes." Can this really be the same player described by the Italian Press as a "flabby rabbit" after Napoli had lost 5-1 to Werder Bremen in a UEFA Cup tie last December?

Throughout his career, Careca has made a habit of defying his critics. Guaraní, his first club, considered him injury prone and sold him to São Paulo for £250,000. Five years later, he was sold for 10 times that amount to Napoli. Brazil firmly believe that it is their turn now to cash in on this extraordinarily gifted player.

Gifted but petulant: Stojković was

WHEN England met Yugoslavia in a World Cup warm-up match at Wembley last December, the late Peter Jones, commenting on the match for Radio 2, said of Dragan Stojković: "What a truly remarkable player he is. He has covered every yard of this Wembley pitch and played in every position except that of goalkeeper. And who knows? He may even try his hand at that before the game is over" (Roddy Forsyth writes).

Stojković, at the age of 24 and having made almost 50 international appearances, has emerged as perhaps the most comprehensively gifted of the players who will assemble in Italy, with a combination of technique and vision which offers him the opportunity to succeed Maradona as the most talented footballer in the world.

Of the 24 nations who will be represented in these finals, Yugoslavia qualified first, and Stojković assumed the key role in ensuring the side's progress. The Scottish coach, Andy Roxburgh, was afforded several chances to observe Stojković at close quarters.

SECOND ROUND

Sat June 23 (4pm) Naples

Winner Group B 3rd Group A, C or D

Scorers	
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Sat June 23 (8pm) Bari

2nd Group A 2nd Group C

Scorers	
---------	--

Sun June 24 (4pm) Turin

Winner Group C 3rd Group A, B or F

Scorers	
---------	--

Sun June 24 (8pm) Milan

Winner Group D 3rd Group B, E or F

Scorers	
---------	--

Mon June 25 (4pm) Genoa

2nd Group F 2nd Group B

Scorers	
---------	--

Mon June 25 (8pm) Rome

Winner Group A 3rd Group C, D or E

Scorers	
---------	--

Tue June 26 (4pm) Verona

Winner Group E 2nd Group D

Scorers	
---------	--

Tue June 26 (8pm) Bologna

Winner Group F 2nd Group E

Scorers	
---------	--

QUARTER-FINALS

Sat June 30 (4pm) Florence

Winner Turin Winner Verona

Scorers	
---------	--

Sat June 30 (8pm) Rome

Winner Genoa Winner Rome

Scorers	
---------	--

Sun July 1 (4pm) Milan

Winner Bari Winner Milan

Scorers	
---------	--

Sun July 1 (8pm) Naples

Winner Naples Winner Bologna

Scorers	
---------	--

SEMI-FINALS

Tues July 3 (7pm) Naples

Winner Florence

Scorers	
---------	--

Team

Wed July 4 (7pm) Turin

Winner Milan

Scorers	
---------	--

Team

سوارى الى الجبل

TEAM PROFILES BY STUART JONES

WORLD CUP

GROUP A

ITALY

THEIR attempt to repeat the feat of 1934, when they won the World Cup on their own soil, could founder on their own nerves. Liam Brady, for one, is convinced that Azzeglio Vicini's team will not be able to handle the pressure, which is already intense and is sure to multiply.

Their security will be anything but frail. It is supervised by Baresi, the most complete defender in the modern game. Powerful, swift and intelligent, Baresi's only apparent weakness is his susceptibility to injury. When fit, he is the accepted leader of the Milanese guardsmen. He and all of his regular defensive colleagues represent the city's famous two clubs, AC and Inter.

No one can dispute that the Italian League is by far the wealthiest and the strongest in the world. An estimated £125 million has been spent on importing 130 foreign players and the product this season was the capture of all three European club trophies, a unique achievement for one nation.

But there could be a price to

pay. Not only have Vicini's preparations been interrupted (the day after he assembled his squad, a dozen players left to return to final club commitments), but the presence of foreign forwards would seem to have stunted the progress of home-grown talents.

An effective strike force has yet to be found. Unless they discover another Rossi, who blossomed during Italy's World Cup triumph in 1982, their campaign will not come to full fruition.

Serena. Carnevale, Mancini, Baggio and Schillaci have all been tested for the role as the partner for Vialli. None has passed. Baggio, after scoring twice in the 4-0 win over Bulgaria at the beginning of the season, has since receded. Schillaci, his colleague at Juventus, could be the solution, but he is too inexperienced to be wholly reliable.

The problem has become so acute that an Italian goal is a rare gem. But traditionally they are slow to start and, if the Roman crowds lift them, they could stay almost exclusively in the capital city and be carried on a wave of patriotic fervour all the way to the final.

USA

THE last to qualify, by beating Trinidad and Tobago and finishing as the runners-up in the CONCACAF group, they promise to be among the first to be eliminated. A comment uttered by an unlikely foe, the manager of the Soviet Union champions, encapsulates their prospects.

"It was like a little joke," Yevgeny Kuchersky said after Dwyer had tumbled to victory over the Americans last August. He admitted that, for the sake of diplomacy, his side had eased up once they were 3-0 ahead. "We didn't want to cause our hosts too much embarrassment."

An intensive, extensive programme has since dissipated the fear that they might suffer further humiliation. They even defeated a European nation (albeit only Finland, three months ago at home in Miami) for the first time in a decade, but Werner Fricker, their president, has lowered their sights to a realistic level.

"We have no illusions about our chances," he says. "But just wait until 1994." They will then be the hosts of the World Cup, but domestic

interest in the game remains insignificant. Only 0.8 per cent of the population watched the delayed transmission of the decisive tie in Trinidad last December.

Although they lost only to Costa Rica, the winners of the qualifying group, they scored a mere six goals in eight ties. The statistical evidence supports the words of their manager Bob Gansler. "Our scores would indicate that our approach and attitude is to achieve success while minimising the risk."

Even if their defence is not dismantled by Czechoslovakia, Italy and Austria, their already feeble attack was further diminished when they lost Hugo Perez, their principal forward, who plays for Red Star in the French second division. He broke a leg and tore knee ligaments in March.

But for the suspension of Mexico, who are invariably the CONCACAF champions, the Americans would not be taking part. They last did so 40 years ago, when they astonished the world by defeating England 1-0 in Belo Horizonte. The chances of creating a similar upset lies somewhere between minimal and zero.

ARGENTINA

NEVER can the world champions have approached the defence of the title in such ignominious form. But for the presence of Maradona, there would be grave doubts about whether they would be strong enough even to go through to the second round. There can be no certainty that they will.

If such an outlook seems dark, consider the evidence of last year. Of 11 fixtures, they won only two. Worse, they failed to score in any of their last five games. The unproductive run started in the South American championship and ended, amid utter tedium, against Italy.

After the soulless, goalless draw in Sardinia, where scarcely a genuine shot was struck by either side, Carlos Bilardo uttered a chilling comment. "People may not like it," the Argentine manager said, "but football today is like that, a midfield game."

Nor is Maradona prepared to set an appealing example. The captain, whose behaviour in the Berlin tournament two years ago was inexcusably shameful, refuses to accept responsibility himself. "It is

up to the referee to get a grip," he says. "If he sits back and lets us hack away at each other, we will."

Ominously, he believes that Argentina are competing in "a group of iron". Another of his opinions cost him £4,200, the fine imposed for publicly alleging that the World Cup draw was fixed. His popularity in Italy was damaged, but he significantly redressed the balance by leading Napoli to the title for the second time.

The triumph was particularly valuable since Argentina, once they have opened the tournament in Milan, will be based there. Bilardo, relieved that the initial opponents are Africans rather than Europeans — "who might have had 30,000 fans cheering them on" — expects his side to receive the full support of Naples.

Earlier this year, Argentina were beaten by Mexico and, without their European allies, they were also humiliated by Mexico. The former French champions. An undistinguished draw in Switzerland last month suggests that Maradona, even if he is again assisted by the gods, cannot be expected single-handedly to reverse their fortunes.

SOVIET UNION

VALERY Lobanovsky has been able to retain almost the same squad and the same team which finished as the runners-up to The Netherlands in the European championship two years ago. There is one significant difference. Mikhailichenko, his most powerful player, recently broke an arm and is unavailable.

The absence of one part can disrupt the smooth running of the Soviet machine. Without the suspended Kuznetsov, for instance, their defence failed to contain the Dutch in Munich in 1988. Mikhailichenko, who has been prone to injury throughout his career, was the central cog in the midfield.

Nevertheless, they will be vastly experienced and, since the squad has been in Italy every spring, they will already be accustomed to the food, the climate and the conditions. Moreover, through the increased freedom of movement, several of the leading players have gained intimate knowledge of foreign patterns and styles.

Once, only those over the age of 30 were officially

permitted to travel abroad: when the policy was relaxed a couple of years ago, Desnev went to Seville, Khidiatulin to Toulouse, Zavarov and Aleinikov to Juventus, Belanov to Borussia Mönchengladbach, Rats to Espanol and Blokhin to Aris Limassol.

While his personnel is largely unaltered, the manager said: "We want to show that our football has changed. We do not depend any more just on athletic ability." A victim of heart trouble, he no longer intends to endure the strain and has announced that he will retire when the tournament is over.

His blood pressure could rise to an unhealthy level if his side fulfils expectations and enters the last 16. He describes the group as "hard" and he believes that Romania "could surprise people".

Not, he trusts, at the start. They are the Soviet's opening opponents in Bari on Saturday. The strongest of the second seeds, the Soviets are meticulous in their preparations and they are one of the nations capable of breaking into the top bracket — but will they miss Mikhailichenko?

AUSTRIA

DOMESTIC optimism is scraping along the floor, despite some recent impressive results. The team with the weakest qualifying record of all the European entrants has been described as "the worst in living memory" by the local press. The appraisal would seem excessively pessimistic because none of the finalists will carry scars of a potentially prolific strike-force.

Polster and Rodax between them own a full set of continental scoring awards. When Polster was with FK Austria, he won the bronze and silver boots in 1986 and 1987 respectively. Rodax, of Rapid Vienna, claimed the golden version this season. As well as accumulating more than 60 goals for their clubs this season, they contributed all three in Austria's notable victory last March in Spain.

Polster, who scored all three goals himself in the decisive qualifying tie against East Germany, is an automatic choice. Rodax, who has agreed to join Atlético Madrid for £2.35 million, has been more accustomed to replacing Ogris as a substitute, but the stature

of "the blond rocket" grew when he was nominated as the Footballer of the Year.

Nor is Austria's midfield short of colour. Herzog (his name means "The Duke" in German) has been hailed as "The White Gull" by Kranks, who is now in charge of Rapid. It is surprising, therefore, that Azzeglio Vicini should see Italy's opponents on Saturday as "a solid team without stars".

Rated as low as sixteenth in Europe, Austria are anything but solid, as was amply illustrated last October in Turkey where they were humbled 3-0. They conceded another six goals in their other five ties and finished a mere three points above Iceland, who were bottom of the group.

Josef Hickersberger, the youngest manager in Austrian history, has no illusions about his side's fate this weekend in Rome. "Italy are out on their own because they are a class team," said Hickersberger, who will leave his post after the tournament. "The significant game will be our next one against Czechoslovakia," he said. His assessment appears to be more realistic than those in the domestic newspapers.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

THEY are more powerful than their ranking might indicate. They are considered no higher than the tenth best team in Europe, but for much of the qualifying competition — one of the factors used to compile the official list — they were without three influential individuals.

One, Lubovy, was injured. In spite of breaking a leg towards the end of last season, he still finished as the League's leading scorer with 24 goals in 28 games for Dukla Prague. As soon as he recovered, he tore ankle ligaments.

The other absentees, Knoflíček and Kubík, were out for even longer. In the summer of 1988, they defected to West Germany while on a trip with Slavia Prague. Their path to freedom led them, among other places, to a remote fishing village in Spain. After living out of a suitcase for 16 months, Knoflíček returned to Germany to join St Pauli.

Kubík signed for Fiorentina and ended the season with a UEFA Cup losers' medal. He will reinforce Czechoslovakia's midfield. Knoflíček

is expected to lead the attack with Lubovy as Griga, the other noted forward, is suspended for the opening tie against the United States in Florence on Sunday.

Under Josef Venglos, back in charge after leading them to the World Cup finals in 1982, they qualified with an especially assured defence. In eight ties they let in a mere three goals and two of those were conceded to Belgium, the eventual winners of the group.

Azzeglio Vicini, the Italian manager, believes that Czechoslovakia are "on their way up again" and Venglos is convinced that his team will at least reach the second round. But ever since they advanced to the World Cup final in 1962, their approach has tended to be laced with excessive caution.

Yet with the Americans in the group and with the memory of a 2-1 victory in Austria last year to lift them, they are almost sure to go through to the last 16. But Knoflíček and Kubík are not the only members of the squad looking for gold in the West. Only if Venglos can harness their personal ambitions is further progress likely to be made.

CAMEROON

RECOGNISED as the strongest side in Africa, Cameroon will be defending their unique record when they meet Argentina on Friday night in the opening tie: they are the only nation to have played in the finals of the World Cup and never been beaten.

During their one previous appearance in Spain, eight years ago, they held all three of their first-round opponents, including Italy, the eventual champions. Having failed narrowly to progress, they returned to success on their own continent. They collected the African Nations Cup in 1984 and 1988 and also finished as the runners-up in 1986.

Their challenge for this year's title was, however, limited. A depleted side lost to Senegal and Zambia, and N'kono, their colourful goalkeeper, found no consolation in a closing victory, over Kenya. "We are a joke," he said. "Our preparations are a farce, and, unless something drastic happens, we will make an embarrassment of ourselves in Italy."

N'kono, has a personal reason to be demoralised: he is no longer considered the first choice by his country. His place has been taken by the equally acrobatic Bell, Bordeaux's goalkeeper.

Bell, the runner-up in the recent French footballer of the year poll, is the leading figure of a French foreign legion. A hint of the Cameroon squad is attached to his rival clubs. They include Rhyly of Metz, and M'bohn, of Le Havre, both of whom are natural goal-scorers in midfield.

However, whispers of discontent have been heard in the camp, and the manager has been the prime target. Valery Nepomniashchy, who was appointed two years ago, was born in Siberia. His own, undisputed, playing career ended prematurely because of injury at the age of 23.

A student of Valery Lobanovsky, the renowned Soviet manager, he has blended his own natural, scientific methods into the more carefree nature of the Cameroon. Although his side started the qualifying competition ignominiously, being held at home by Angola, they finished in triumph, beating Tunisia in the two-legged final.

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ROMANIA

ROMANIA were regarded as a dark horse before the revolution. Now they are even darker. Nobody knows how the team, whose very presence in Italy was in considerable doubt, will respond. It can be assumed that they will at least receive the sympathy, if not the wholehearted support, of the Italian crowds.

Had it not been for the domestic upheavals, they would doubtless have been one of the most stable sides in the tournament: almost a third of their squad, as well as the manager, are from Steaua Bucharest, the champions of Europe four years ago; added to that number is an even greater number of players, 10, from Dinamo Bucharest, the national champions.

Emmerich Jenei earned promotion after Steaua's victory over Barcelona in Seville. He brought the bulk of the army club with him, and together they ended two decades of failure by qualifying as the winners of a group which included Denmark, the strongest nation left outside the World Cup finals.

One incident in the game against the Danes, though, could prove costly. Hagi, known as "The Maradona of the Carpathians" and one of the most intelligent midfield players in the world, was sent off and is suspended from their opening, and potentially crucial, tie against the Soviet Union on Saturday.

Hagi and Lacatus, a colleague at Steaua and the nation's most productive forward, are to be sold after the World Cup "to finance the reconstruction of sports facilities." Hagi seems destined for Real Madrid in Spain, where he has already agreed to move after the World Cup finals in a seven-figure deal, but several Italian clubs, notably AC Milan and Torino, still have hopes of enticing him away from the Bernabéu at the last minute.

Romania require an encouraging start, especially as they are to close the first round against Argentina in Naples, the adopted home town of Maradona. But the Romanians also have a famous name in their midst. Belin's parents, both of whom were footballers about football, christened him Pele.

GROUP B

WEST GERMANY

IT would be fitting if Franz Beckenbauer, as stylish a man as he was a player, should end his managerial career by leading his country to the ultimate triumph. Such a finale should not be seen as some wild and romantic notion: his side is formidably effective.

He has experimented with numerous variations. In the last 56 internationals he has used 64 different players, and 38 of those have been making their debuts. He tried no fewer than 16 sweepers before deciding that Augenthaler, the oldest member of the squad at 32, should fill Beckenbauer's former role.

In any other country such alterations might be disruptive, but the players are taught the German system from an early age. Other than Augenthaler and Hermann, the rest of the party are all graduates from the under-21 side. They were educated by Bertie Vogts, who is to become the national manager in July.

Beckenbauer regards only one of his choices as indispensable. Matthäus, the captain, is the leader of the orchestra on the pitch; he will

be one of the centres of attention off it as well.

With Brehme and Kinsmann, he plays for Inter Milan. The German, therefore, will receive the support of the local Milanese club, and the vocal encouragement could be significant. If they win the group, which is a probability rather than a possibility, they will stay in the northern city until the semi-finals.

Characteristically, they did not overly extend themselves in qualifying for the World Cup finals for the twelfth time. The runners-up to the Netherlands, they were unbeaten in six ties. Indeed, they have lost only once since the 1988 European championship, away to the improving French three months ago.

Beckenbauer believes that the decisive game in the group will be the first against Yugoslavia on Sunday. "I've been impressed with them in our two games against them recently," he said. Colombia and, especially, the United Arab Emirates, cannot be expected to hold the Germans, particularly if they require a point or two to go through to the second round.

COLOMBIA

THE Colombian League programme was so infected with murders, kidnappings and death threats that it was prematurely abandoned. No wonder the national manager, Francisco Maturana, was relieved to have qualified. "We can show the world that there is much more to Colombia than all these stories about drugs and poverty would lead people to believe," he said.

He could achieve his aim, and may even have been assisted by the government's decision to suspend the domestic season after Alvaro Ortega, a 27-year-old referee who had officiated in a mere 13 games, was gunned down in Medellín last November. Maturana was given more time to prepare for the tournament, which Colombia was to have hosted in 1986.

Even so, the build-up has been interrupted. His own life was threatened during a tournament in Miami earlier this year by a group calling itself "The Cleaners of Colombian Soccer." His squad, assembled in January, was temporarily disbanded, but has since undergone an intensive training schedule. Even so, the team promises to be among the least experienced in the finals.

Iguarán, a 33-year-old forward, is the lone survivor from the qualifying competition four years ago. Valderrama, Hoyos and Gomez are the only members to have been capped before 1987.

The Colombian, who have never won the South American title, also have a limited history in international competition. During their only previous appearance in the World Cup they gained one point, and only because they scored three goals in the closing 22 minutes against the Soviet Union in 1962. Hopes of improving their record are based heavily on the representatives of one club, Atlético Nacional, which is managed by Maturana.

The first Colombian team to win the Libertadores Cup, Atlético went on to take AC Milan to extra time before losing 1-0 in the world club championship last December. "We'll make it hard for everybody," Maturana said. He knows enough about pain and how it can be inflicted: he is a qualified dentist.

YUGOSLAVIA

THE quality of the dangerous second seeds, officially rated as the fifth strongest nation in Europe, is spread from one corner of the continent to the other. No country has exported more players and coaches. The figure has been estimated at 450 in the last 18 years.

The most renowned domicile, Stojković, is about to join the exodus. A precocious talent, selected for the Rest of the World at Wembley three years ago when only 22, he will join Marseille for £3 million this summer.

The sum represents a huge profit for Red Star Belgrade. They bought him from Radnicki Nis in exchange for a set of floodlights. The fee was apt: Stojković illuminated Yugoslavia's midfield in the qualifying competition, during which they dropped only two points — they were held in Scotland and in France — in eight ties.

He is an established member of a side which has otherwise featured comparative elders. Susic, recalled in 1988 after an absence of four years during which he won the

French League and Cup with Paris St Germain, is 35. Hadzibegić is 33, the Vujović twins are 31, and Janković is 30.

The promise of the nation's younger players has already been confirmed. Prošćević, a substitute against both England's junior and senior sides last December, was voted the best young player of the under-18 World Cup, won by Yugoslavia in Chile two years ago.

In spite of their undoubted individual ability, an equally obvious flaw runs through their collective temperament, as was graphically illustrated during the opening stages of a decisive European championship qualifying tie against England in Belgrade in 1987. Psychologically, they cracked instantly, and yielded four goals in half an hour.

Ivan Osim, then on the edge of dismissal, has since restored his and Yugoslavia's reputation, but he concedes that Yugoslavia "are not so good when we are not motivated." A professor of mathematics, he has had to subtract one of his regular midfield players, the suspended Bazzadrević, from his calculations.

UAE

SIX months ago, Mario Zagalo realistically appraised the strength of a nation which rivals the United States as the weakest in the competition. "Three teams in Asia, South Korea, China and Saudi Arabia, are on paper much better than us," the then manager said. "It is a miracle that we have qualified."

The Brazilian was only marginally over the case. China, leading 1-0 in their closing game in the Asian play-off, were a mere three minutes away from joining the South Koreans in the finals. Qatar, who had been credited with only two goals in their four previous ties, then scored twice.

Having so unexpectedly been ushered through, the Emirates have stumbled into chaos almost as deep as that being experienced by Costa Rica. In January, Zagalo was dismissed, amid a welter of acrimonious accusations, officially for taking too long a holiday in his homeland.

Bernard Blaut, the Polish assistant manager in the 1982 and 1986 World Cups, was appointed as his successor.

But by March he had gone, too. Wretched performances in the Gulf Cup, culminating in a 6-1 humiliation by Kuwait, were given as the reasons for his dismissal.

The Federation turned to Carlos Alberto Pereira, another Brazilian, who had originally been recruited three years ago before being lured away by the Saudi Arabians, to lead the side again. Without any outstanding individuals, he has little option but to rely on the system built by his fellow countryman.

Zagalo said: "We are coming mainly for experience." Pereira, with a choice limited to the representatives of only 23 affiliated clubs, cannot realistically raise expectations any higher. The nation has, after all, never before genuinely challenged for honours in Asia, or even in the Gulf.

For the initial influence of Don Revie, who left the England manager's post in 1977 to go to Dubai, they might still be wandering comparatively aimlessly in the desert.

The youth policy Revie developed would seem to be bearing fruit, and now represents a significant, albeit small, oasis.

How the finalists reached Italy



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EUROPE

Group one

Romania qualify

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	6	4	1	1	5	9	9
Denmark	5	3	2	1	5	8	8
Greece	6	1	2	3	3	5	4
Bulgaria	6	1	1	4	6	3	3

RESULTS: Greece 1, Denmark 1;

Denmark 1, Bulgaria 1; Romania 1, Greece 0;

Greece 0, Denmark 1; Bulgaria 1, Romania 0;

Denmark 1, Greece 0; Romania 1, Bulgaria 0;

Greece 1, Bulgaria 0; Romania 3, Denmark 1.

Group two

Sweden and England qualify

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	5	4	2	1	10	6	10
England	5	3	2	0	8	5	8
Poland	6	2	1	3	4	9	5
Albania	6	0	0	6	3	11	0

RESULTS: England 0, Sweden 0;

Poland 1, Albania 1; Albania 1, Sweden 0;

Sweden 0, England 2; England 5, Poland 0;

Poland 0, Sweden 0; Sweden 2, Albania 0;

Sweden 2, Albania 1; Poland 2, England 0.

Group three

Soviet Union and Austria qualify

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Soviet Union	5	4	1	1	11	4	11
Austria	5	3	2	0	9	3	8
Turkey	6	3	1	2	10	7	7
East Germany	6	3	1	2	9	7	7

RESULTS: Iceland 1, Soviet Union 1;

Turkey 1, Iceland 1; Soviet Union 2, Austria 0;

Austria 3, Turkey 2; Turkey 3, East Germany 0;

Soviet Union 3, East Germany 0; Soviet Union 1, Austria 1;

Iceland 1, Iceland 0; Austria 0, Austria 2; Iceland 0, East Germany 3; Iceland 2, Turkey 1; East Germany 2, Soviet Union 0.

Group four

Netherlands and West Germany qualify

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Netherlands	5	4	2	0	8	2	10
West Germany	5	3	2	1	5	3	8
Finland	6	1	1	4	4	8	3
Wales	6	0	2	4	4	8	2

RESULTS: Finland 0, West Germany 0;

Netherlands 1, Wales 0; Wales 2, Finland 2;

Finland 2, West Germany 0; West Germany 2,

WORLD CUP

GROUP C

SCOTLAND

THE Scottish understanding of football as an extension of the country's history will again be vividly evident when Scotland take the field against Costa Rica in the Luigi Ferraris Stadium in Genoa on June 8 for their opening match in Group C.

Amid the jumble of colourful and inventive banners, a feature of the Scottish supporters in their World Cup array, will be the usual exhortations to remember Bannockburn. To emphasise the point, there will be rousing bellowing of the newly adopted Scottish anthem, the Flower of Scotland, the chorus of which celebrates the same encounter. It is, in its way, a peculiarly bizarre spectacle.

However, since the World Cup finals have succeeded victory over England as the apex of Scottish footballing achievement, the tartan legions might find a more sustaining metaphor in Bruce's encounter with the inspirational spider. In West Germany, Argentina, Spain and Mexico, the Scots were frustrated by elimination in the first round. Now, in their fifth consecutive appearance in the finals, Scotland's chances of proceeding to the second stage seem to be slimmer than before.

Yet an obstinate optimism persists in Andy Roxburgh's declaration that his squad is capable of going further in the tournament than any of its predecessors.

To the neutral observer such a claim must appear to emphasise bravado, especially in the light of Scotland's record of one victory from their past seven fixtures. Roxburgh agrees that the Scots have not signalled the kind of form which is likely to overwhelm any of their section rivals with apprehension. "They have been watching all our preparatory matches and they're all scratching their heads. No wonder, we've never been able to field the same side twice," he said after Scotland's final domestic warm-up fixture, against Egypt and Poland, which ended in a 3-1 defeat and a 1-1 draw respectively.

To add to the confusion, Scotland have exhibited the Jekyll and Hyde syndrome throughout their approach. The first five qualifying matches produced an impressive sequence of results, Scotland gaining nine points out of a possible 10, with Johnston accumulating six goals in the added-to-his-two-in-the-previous-tournament, set a new Scottish World Cup scoring record.

From their remaining three qualifying fixtures, however, Scotland took only a single point, in a decidedly nervous home encounter with Norway in which Leighton was beaten by a speculative 35-yard shot which brought a Norwegian equaliser in injury time.

This remarkable behaviour continued in the preparatory matches, when Scotland produced accomplished football to beat the admittedly debilitated world champions, Argentina, before losing to East Germany and Egypt, and drawing with Poland. Which of these contradictory faces



Target man: McColl must decorate the more homely efforts of his colleagues if Scotland are to succeed in Italy

will Scotland display in Italy? Any realistic view must take account of the fact that the Scots have become accident prone, the testimony of which is a total of four own goals in seven fixtures, while the defence has proved disturbingly vulnerable to both direct running and aerial assault. At the same time, the scoring rate of the forwards has declined abruptly, a combination which suggests that Scotland are very likely to fulfil their provisional departure date from Italy on June 22.

Nevertheless, Roxburgh and his assistant, Craig Brown, insist that they are not unduly perturbed. "Towards the end of our qualifying matches the players undoubtedly felt the impact of the pressure of reaching the finals for the fifth time in a row," Roxburgh said. "They did not want to be known as

the team which failed to keep the record going, and naturally that led to a certain amount of tension and hesitancy. But we got through, and when you reach the World Cup finals, nobody is too concerned about how you did it."

"Then we played our warm-up matches and although, of course, we would have liked to have won them all, we took the opportunity to try things we would never have dreamed of attempting in the finals. The players learned about the jobs they will have to do in Italy, and we discovered areas which we could improve."

"We are just as determined to do well as we were at the beginning, and we are just as confident that we know what our best team is and that nobody, and I mean nobody, will find us easy meat in the finals."

Certainly, if homework and

methodical preparation mean anything, the Scots are better equipped than on their previous expeditions. But their route to the second stage allows for no margin of error. Costa Rica must be beaten and, if the Scots are to qualify amongst the best third-placed teams, they will surely require a winning margin of three goals in their opening match.

Scotland and Sweden agree that the fixture on June 16, also in the Ferraris Stadium, is crucial for the fortunes of each. If Scotland win, their progress is likely to be guaranteed, and the contest between Johnston, of Rangers, and Hyson, of Liverpool, seems likely to be the key encounter.

Scotland will play with five in defence, and, in the absence of the injured Cooper, look to Johnston and his Rangers colleague, McColl, to deco-

rate the more homely efforts of their colleagues. As for the supporters, the Tartan Army will muster in numbers once more, with 15,000 or so to be found in boisterous ranks in Genoa and Turin, and the recent and uncharacteristic mood of introspection will be cast off when the banners unfurl against Costa Rica.

The Scottish followers are acutely aware that in four consecutive appearances in the World Cup finals their team has managed a scant three victories, against Zaire, New Zealand and the Netherlands. They know, too, as Roxburgh does, that in world terms, the latest collection of Scottish players is ordinary. Having embraced a becoming realism, all that they ask now is for a degree of luck, of the merely ordinary variety.

Roddy Forsyth

Scotland squad

JIM LEIGHTON, Manchester United, born July 24, 1958, goalkeeper. First choice goalkeeper until this season. Confidence weakened by omission from FA Cup final replay, 55 caps.

ANDY GORAM, Hibernian, born April 13, 1964, goalkeeper. Set to take over from Leighton, but error cost Scotland a goal in final warm-up match against Malta. 10 caps.

BRYAN GUNN, Norwich City, born December 22, 1963, goalkeeper. Nervous international debut in Scotland's 3-1 defeat by Egypt. A last-resort choice in Italy. 0 caps.

SCOTT GUNN, Rangers, born April 5, 1962, defender. Believed best position to be in central midfield but, having injuries, will be employed at right full back. 40 caps.

GARY McALLISTER, Liverpool, born July 15, 1960, central defender. Favourite of management because of long, falling forward passes. 11 caps.

ALEX McLEISH, Aberdeen, born January 21, 1956, central defender. More expressive during Willie Miller's absence. 70 caps.

CRAIG LEVEY, Heart of Midlothian, born October 22, 1964, central defender. Cultured footballer whose career seemed ended by leg injury in 1988. Recovery should be marked by a place alongside Gillespie and McAllister. Five caps.

DAVID McWHIRTER, Heart of Midlothian, born January 28, 1964, central defender. Commanding in the air. Club partnership with Leighton has had much to do with Hearts' sustained challenge. Cover player for Scotland. Four caps.

STEWART McKENNIE, Aberdeen, born October 27, 1962, full back. Prefers to advance rather than act as right marker. First goal for five years was against Argentina two months ago, but lost leg against Egypt. Unlikely to add to four caps.

MAURICE MALPAS, Dundee United, born August 3, 1962, full back. Experienced and steady. More assertive past two seasons. Asset on left flank. 34 caps.

ROY AITKEN, Newcastle United, born November 24, 1958, offensive midfielder. Determined and inspirational. 53 caps.

PAUL MCKAY, Celtic, born October 22, 1964, midfielder. Excellent vision, rarely displays assertiveness. 46 caps.

JIM BETT, Aberdeen, born November 25, 1959, forward. Intelligent. Prefers central midfield but employed on the left where talents are more muted. 25 caps.

MURDO MCELROY, Sonassie, born September 24, 1955, midfielder. Comfortable on either foot, is a ball winner with a powerful shot. 16 caps.

STUART McCALL, Everton, born June 10, 1964, midfielder. A newcomer who has impressed. Continues the tradition of combative, red-haired players in the centre. Five caps.

GARY McALLISTER, Liverpool, born December 25, 1964, introduced to attack in midfield. Valuable ability to orchestrate dead ball tactics. Three caps.

ALAN COLLINS, Hibernian, born January 31, 1960, left-sided player whose development has been pleasing. Included mainly for experience. Three caps.

MAURICE MALPAS, Dundee United, born April 13, 1962, forward. Easily the most gifted Scottish forward. Technique advanced considerably in two years with Hearts. 33 caps.

ALLY McCOIST, Rangers, born September 24, 1962, forward. Effulgent and lively, but displays a debilitating anxiety in front of goal. 23 caps.

ALAN McALLISTER, Bayern Munich, born February 10, 1965, forward. Attacker who was eclipsed by Johnston and Brian McClair at Aston Villa and Bayern. Powerful and direct but not aggressive. Seven caps.

GORDON DURIE, Chelsea, born December 6, 1956, forward. Powerful foraging attacker whose consistency has been reduced by injury. Six caps.

ROBERT FLECK, Norwich City, born August 11, 1965, forward. Small and nifty. Described by Andy Roxburgh as "a bloody nuisance to defenders", may be deployed against Sweden's Hyson. One cap.

BRAZIL

NOBODY should necessarily expect the Brazilians to bring golden shafts of sunlight to the tournament. Sebastiao Lazaroni, the first national manager to introduce a sweeper system, has foreseen their natural carefree ways for a more disciplined and organised approach. His policy makes them even stronger contenders for the title.

Lazaroni, the 39-year-old former goalkeeper, has his critics. Socrates, the country's former captain, says that the methods are "too rigid".

"He has limited our characteristic flair," he said. But to good effect. His side recently defeated Italy in Sardinia, and lost narrowly to England at Wembley, where they appeared to be less than fully extended.

They also inflicted a defeat on the Netherlands, who had been unbeaten since claiming the European crown. The only country to cross the Atlantic and win the World Cup, they

promise again to lead the challenge from outside the continent.

Almost all of Lazaroni's squad play abroad, including nine of his starting line-up against the Dutch. He may not be able regularly to gather them together for practice sessions, but their extensive knowledge of European ways offers more than adequate compensation. The new defensive formation is not foreign to them.

Careca, who also broke a bone in his foot in January, and the equally prolific Muller are expected initially to lead the attack on Sunday. Their opponents, Sweden, must be wary above all of conceding free kicks anywhere near their own area.

Lazaroni declares that he "doesn't want to underestimate people but I think we will be in the final". He even goes as far as to forecast that Italy will be the opponents in Rome on July 8. The queue of those disputing his claim would not stretch too far.

COSTA RICA

OFFICIALS have been changed so often and so suddenly that it is a wonder they found the right road to Italy. Even though they have arrived, they are still surrounded by so much bewildering confusion that they are surely bound to lose their way in the first round.

Since the qualifying competition began, they have been led by three different presidents. That would be unsettling enough but they have also been guided by four different managers - Bora Milutinovic is the new incumbent.

Marvin Rodriguez, a manager reportedly paid \$3,000 a month, was eventually responsible for lifting them to the top of the CONCACAF group. They opened by losing in Guatemala, but their place in the finals was assured well before the close.

But Rodriguez soon followed in the well-trodden footsteps of his predecessors

(Gustavo Di Simone, a Uruguayan, and Antonio Moyana, a Spaniard). He was dismissed after Chivas, a Mexican second division club, beat the national side 1-0 in February. Cesar Luis Menotti, the Argentine, declined an invitation to be his successor.

Milutinovic accepted. The Yugoslav was the manager of Mexico four years ago when they reached their highest standing in the World Cup.

As long as the players are able to adjust to yet another coach speaking in yet another language, they could mark their World Cup debut by stretching Scotland in Genoa on Monday night. Thereafter, their defence could sink into as much turbulence as has the team over the past year.

Flores, a central defender, must in particular play a captain's role against Brazil and Sweden. Cayasso is regarded as their best midfielder player, Medford as a dangerous winger and Coronado as the most productive forward.

SWEDEN

THEY were once rated by Bobby Robson as the strongest team in Europe but his opinion was offered more than two years ago after they had won the Berlin Tournament. Although they finished above England at the top of the qualifying group, they have since declined in stature.

In 1988, they were protected at the back by Hyson and Larsson, central defenders who had represented the rest of the world in the Football League centenary game the previous year. They were guided in midfield by Prytz, who played for Malmö against Nottingham Forest in the European Cup final when he was only 19, and Strömberg.

Their defence remains sufficiently secure (they were unbeaten in their six qualifying ties) but their attack has diminished. Prytz and Strömberg, both of whom are with Italian clubs, lost form and were dropped, and they are now without Hellström, who

had been their most productive forward.

He collided with his own goalkeeper in training in January, broke a leg in two places and was ruled out. Nevertheless, Olle Nordin, the fifth national manager since the job was created in 1962, is confident that his side will reach the second round.

They will probably do so, but they are unlikely to follow an adventurous route. "Our strikers used to work like slaves in defence," Nordin said. "Now our defenders help to create openings and overall we are trying to be less cautious than we were."

Hyson does not fear the prospect of playing Brazil in Turin on Sunday. "We are fortunate to meet the Brazilians early on when they are likely to be cautious," he said. "With luck, we could take a point from the Scots. They are not so much of a worry because they cannot run in that heat. By the time we meet Costa Rica, they could be exhausted."

GROUP E

BELGIUM

GUY Thys, who retired in 1988 after being in charge of a century of internationals spanning a dozen years, was recalled as the national manager only three months ago. Thus he succeeded, as well as preceded, Walter Meeuwis.

The timing and the circumstances of Meeuwis's dismissal are similar to that of Eduard Malofeyev on the eve of the World Cup four years ago. He was sacked because it was thought that his Soviet Union players from Kiev and Tbilisi, who formed most of the squad, were not inspired by the Muscovite.

The same accusations were heard in October when Belgium sank into the deepest ignominy. They were held at home by Luxembourg, who had collected not a single World Cup qualifying point since beating Turkey in 1973. Although the outcome was irrelevant, a stern warning was issued by the President.

"If it ever emerges that players deliberately performed below their best," Michel Dhooche said, "then that will be the last time they will have played for Belgium." Meeuwis, apparently absolved of blame, was officially offered "support and confidence". He should then have foreseen his own eventual fate.

It was confirmed after a defeat in Greece and a dire goalless draw against Sweden. Thys, having rejected an approach from the South Koreans, agreed to return and has inherited a lively attack.

It features Degryse and van der Linden, a pair of forwards who took Anderlecht to the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup, and Ceulemans, aged 33, who has won most Belgian caps.

THE explosive punch they pack is not always delivered legitimately. Their forwards are fearless but, in spite of the intentions of their manager, they are still inclined to hide their talent behind physical aggression. Should they maintain their discipline, they could themselves be difficult to knock out.

Oscar Washington Tabarez has had to shape his squad from long distance. Almost all of his players are attached to foreign clubs in Europe and elsewhere in South America and, because of political upheavals and a consequent lack of financial support, he has largely been confined to his own homeland.

Before the recent tour, Uruguay had played against only one European nation (they drew 1-1 against Italy last year) since 1986. Their experience was inevitably individual rather than collective but results over the past few months

URUGUAY

indicate that Tabarez has been able to redress the balance and form a potentially solid unit.

In February they won the Marlboro Cup in Miami, a competition featuring three other World Cup finalists - Colombia, Costa Rica and the United States. More notably, they then held West Germany 3-3 in Stuttgart, where a goalkeeping error cost them victory, and last month they broke England's sequence of 17 unbeaten games.

Their strength lies in a quick and elusive attack. Sosa, who was voted the best player of last year's South American championship, Francescoli, Alzamendi and Aguilera, all carry striking reputations. They led Uruguay to the top of the qualifying group, although they finished above Bolivia only on goal difference.

Tabarez, who accepted the invitation to become the national manager in 1988 two years after rejecting it, says that he is attempting to change the attitude. He forecasts that his side will not be as brutally cynical as in the last World Cup. They left Mexico in disgrace.

For a country with a population of only three million, they have a surprisingly strong tradition in the tournament and especially at the start of every other decade. They won the title in 1930, when they were the hosts, again in 1950 and they finished fourth in 1970.

In spite of their international success, their own game is dwindling. The number of registered professional players in a first division which included only 13 clubs last year dropped by 65 to 275. The average wage of the players is little more than £150 a month. In Uruguay, the grass roots of the game would seem to be dying.

SPAIN

recent victory over Czechoslovakia) than for his club, Atlético Madrid. The other positional worry for Suarez lies at the heart of the defence, where Sanchez and Andrinus are no longer automatic choices.

Of the 19 debutants introduced by Suarez within his first 15 months, half a dozen of them were central defenders. Spain conceded only three goals in their eight qualifying ties, a statistic which indicates that they could yet be sufficiently secure to progress further than usual in international competition.

Even in the World Cup of 1982, which was staged on their own home grounds, they won only one of their five games. They reached the finals of the three European championships during the last decade but, in spite of being the runners up in 1984 when they were also the hosts, they have overall claimed only two victories in 11 ties.

SOUTH KOREA

THE champions of Asia could be the tallest of the dwarfs. Their unorthodox technique, featuring natural balance and athleticism, has been described as a mixture of kung-fu and disco dancing.

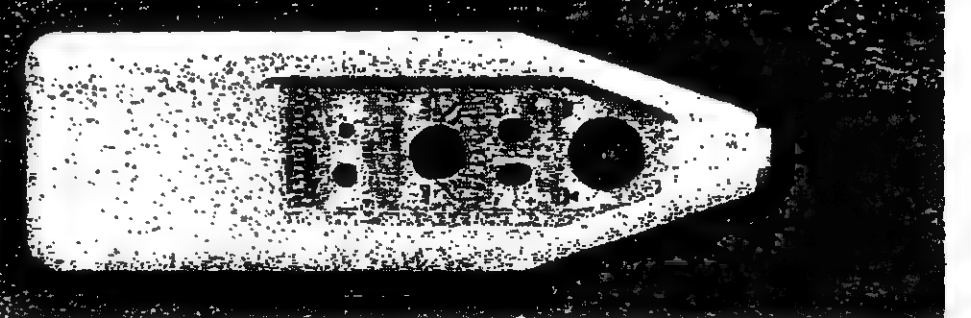
During a protracted schedule of 11 qualifying ties, they scored 30 goals, conceded only one and remained unbeaten. Their progress is remarkable. Although the game was introduced in 1882 by the crew of a British war ship, it was not until a decade ago that a tiny professional domestic league was founded.

In reaching successive finals, they have experience as well as ability. Their manager, Lee Hoe-Tik, is reinforcing their power too. The members of his squad have recently had to endure a special weight training programme.

The 19-year-old, as the side is called in honour of the young warriors who inhabited the country between the 6th and 10th centuries, would have won a tournament in Malta in February had they not conceded two goals in the last three minutes. They went down 3-2 to Norway.

Choi Soon-Ho, a midfielder player whose salary of £8,000 a month is the highest in South Korea, sounds the most imaginative. So assured is he of eventual glory in Italy's capital city on July 8 that when his son was born a couple of years ago, he named him Roma.

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WORLD CUP

GROUP F

ENGLAND

BOBBY Robson has already written the ideal epitaph to his England managerial career. When asked last week whether he might change his mind about his resignation, he responded with a smile and without a moment's hesitation: "What a beautiful way to retire," he said, "to go out by winning the World Cup."

The statement might seem a glib line from a script prepared once he was aware that his intentions were to be prematurely revealed. Conveniently, it would assure the players, the media, and the nation that his impending departure would not deflect him from his aim.

But only the cynics and the outsiders would have doubted his sincerity. Intrinsic honesty and decent man, if at times a shade naive, his eagerness for England to shine in the World Cup became an obsession when the challenge for the European title turned into a sorry fiasco two summers ago.

After his team had lost all three ties, and returned home with the worst sequence since he took over from Ron Greenwood in 1982, he sat in a sunlit garden in West Germany and defended his position. The victim of savage and unjust criticism, he professed that he still had "a job to do".

The first task was to restore England's reputation, which had been damaged by the Republic of Ireland, the Netherlands and, particularly, when only pride was at stake, the Soviet Union. The second was to qualify for Italy and, once there, to lift the country back to its former stature.

Robson immediately dispensed with several old boys. Sansom, Anderson, Watson, Hoddie, Reid and Halsey were among those whose international careers came to an abrupt end.

To support the new development, Robson retained a central core of experience. Shilton, Butcher, Bryan Robson, Lineker, Beardsley, Barnes and Waddle were the principal foundations.

Stevens, Pearce, McMahon and Webb continued their education within a settled framework and 18 debutants were brought in, a few at a time, to see if they could make their transition from outstanding club player to competent international. Bobby Robson describes it as "a giant leap". Several fell into the chasm which divides the two levels. Stierland and

Phelan were the only defenders to fail the test. Cottie, Harford, Smith, Clough, Marwood, and especially Fashanu also could not instantly convince England's managers.

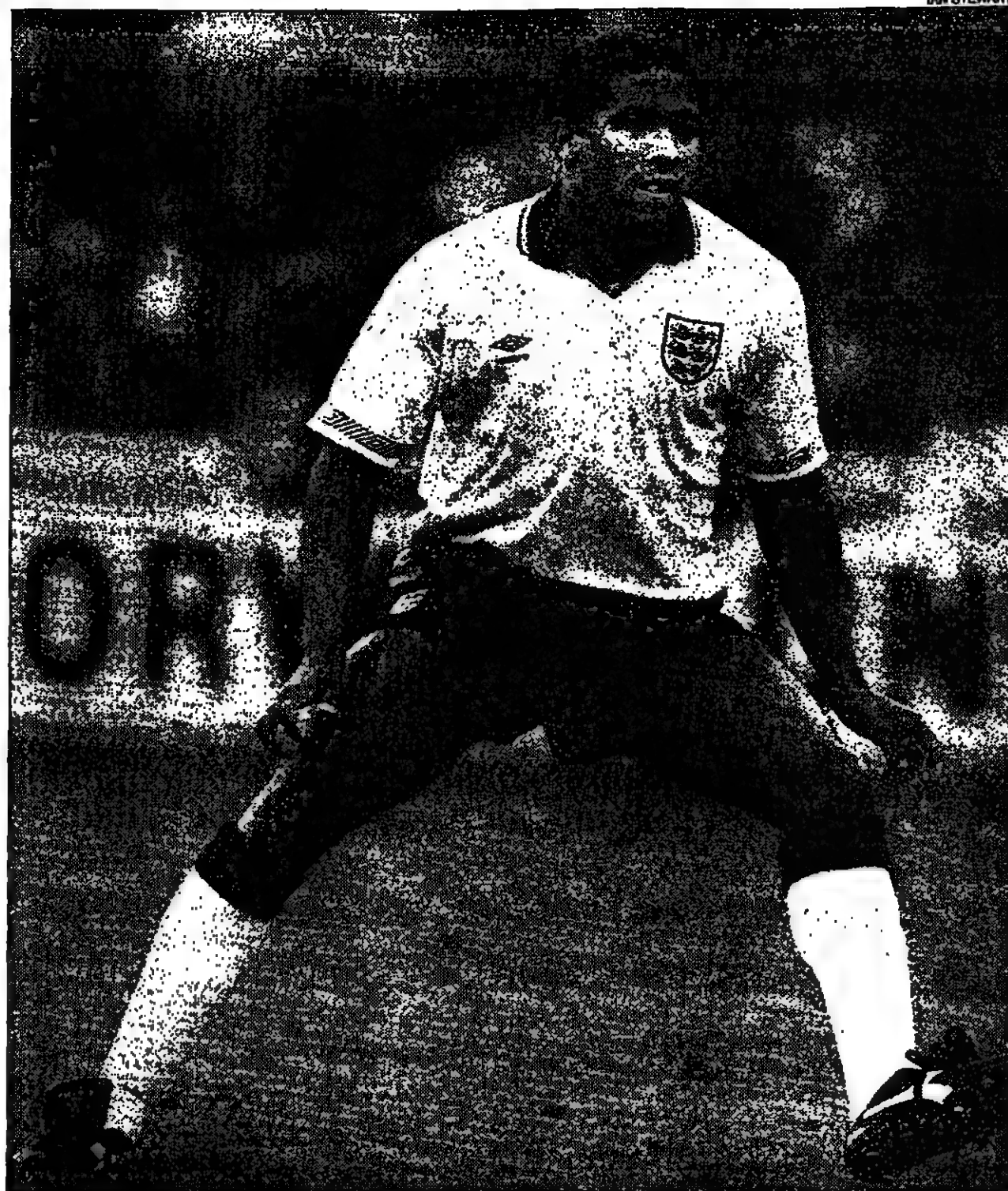
When the process of elimination was complete, a couple of former favourites were recalled. They were Wright, one of the few blameless individuals in the European championship, and Hodge, one of those who played a part in England's belated revival in the 1986 World Cup.

Of the debutants to have adjusted successfully, Walker has been by far the most convincing. His progress has been so rapid that he is considered the most vital member of the defence. His natural speed has helped to disguise the deficiencies which lie elsewhere amid the back four. Since Walker made his full debut against Greece in February last year, it has been largely unchanged. With Stevens on the right, Pearce on the left, and Butcher as the other central pillar, the unit is built to resist power rather than guile.

Therein lies a flaw. Europeans and South Americans attack not with a tall centre forward and two wingers, but invariably with two strikers who follow unpredictable paths. One of England's full backs, therefore, has usually been left with no one to mark. As a spare man, he has been more of a creative influence. Neither Stevens nor Pearce is designed for such duties.

It would have been beneficial a year ago to have promoted Dixon on the right and either Dorog or Winterburn on the left. They are more comfortable on the ball and could by now have been fully integrated into the system.

Bobby Robson might also have experimented with a sweeper, a role which might be filled by Bryan Robson under his successor. Now that several first-division clubs line up with three central defenders, the idea would at least have been worth trying. In the process, the midfield could have been augmented. Webb was established as Bryan Robson's assistant there until he ruptured his Achilles tendon in Sweden last September. His wound also tore apart Bobby Robson's design. Thereafter he had to consider whether he could afford to select both Barnes and Waddle, as he would have preferred. No one had been able to



Enigmatic stalwart: Liberated from restrictions on the wing, John Barnes has not fulfilled his promise of six years ago

take the place of Webb. Thomas was wholly inadequate. McMahon does not have the same vision or ability. Gascoigne is still ill-disciplined. He cannot resist playing the fool, either on or off the pitch, and he will probably emerge as a joker in the pack rather than the ace which Bobby Robson requires.

The manager's attacking

plans were also disrupted when Beardsley, the most effective foil for Lineker, was injured two months ago. Barnes, liberated from the restrictions on the wing, has not yet been so productive in the middle. With 52 caps, in his collection, he has not fulfilled the promise he showed in Rio de Janeiro six years ago.

Waddle, potentially an

equally fearsome weapon, has been afflicted by the physical and mental strain of being involved in Marseille's ultimately successful challenge for the French championship. England's strike force, which could be as threatening as any in the world, cannot be considered to be in prime working order.

The defence, which did not concede a goal in the quality-

ing competition, may appear to be secure. The impression, as the Uruguayans illustrated a fortnight ago when breaking an unbeaten sequence of 17 internationals, is deceptive. England are clearly vulnerable against swift-footed forwards and fleet counterattacks.

Any midfield featuring Gascoigne is as stable as a volcano, and unless Lineker receives the necessary ammu-

England squad

PETER SHILTON: Derby County, aged 40, goalkeeper. England's most-capped player. Playing in third World Cup finals. A European Cup winner with Nottingham Forest in 1979 and 1980, he remains one of the world's top 'keepers. 117 caps.

CHRIS WOODS: Glasgow Rangers, aged 30, goalkeeper. One of the patient reserves waiting for Shilton to retire. Made England debut in 1985 against the United States. A physically strong and commanding keeper and an obsessive trainer. 18 caps.

DAVID SEAMAN: Arsenal, aged 28, goalkeeper. One of the most improved players in the English league. Tall, agile and reliable with a big future predicted. Moved recently from Queen's Park Rangers in a £1.3 million transfer. Three caps.

PAUL PARKER: Queens' Park Rangers, aged 26, defender. Sweeper for his club, but usually used at right back by England. Quick, incisive and intelligent defender lacking only in height and experience. Could be surprise choice. Five caps.

GARY STEVENS: Glasgow Rangers, aged 27, defender. Fit, fast and forward-looking for a right back, but suspect when up against a good winger. Veteran of Mexico 1986. 38 caps.

DES WALKER: Nottingham Forest, aged 24, central defender. Quick, agile, covering defender who has progressed rapidly since 1988 debut. Virtual certainty in alongside Butcher. 17 caps.

TERRY BUTCHER: Glasgow Rangers, aged 31, defender. In third World Cup series. Widely respected as the physical linchpin of the England defence. Tall and powerful in the centre. Makes up in sheer strength what lacks in skill. 71 caps.

STUART PEARCE: Nottingham Forest, aged 28, defender. Fearsome tackler with powerful shot and strong overlapping runs, but prone to wildness and poor positional play. Late arrival to professional football with Coventry in 1985, has made up lost time quickly. 23 caps.

TONY DOROG: Chelsea, aged 24, defender. Born in Australia, began career on trial at Aston Villa after writing for a chance. Now a composed, skilful and adventurous modern full back. Three caps.

MARK WRIGHT: Derby County, aged 26, central defender. Tall, skilful and attacking with great aerial strength, but dogged by ill-luck and injury. 23 caps.

PAUL GASCOIGNE: Tottenham Hotspur, aged 22, midfielder. England's only exciting creative talent to emerge since 1986, but plagued by immaturity. Gifted with great skill, but lacks pace. Dangerous at free kicks, rarely

defence with discipline for a full match, but could be a surprise in the first-choice line-up.

STEVE HODGES: Nottingham Forest, aged 27, midfielder. Veteran of Mexico 1986 and a driving force on the left of midfield. Capable all-round player with excellent attacking skills. 21 caps.

STEVE MCMAHON: Liverpool, aged 28, midfielder. Hard-working central deputy for Bryan Robson who can also play alongside him if required. Solid, if unspectacular. 12 caps.

TREVOR STEVEN: Glasgow Rangers, aged 26, midfielder. Polished right-side midfielder with ability to cut in to shoot. Member of England's 1986 team. Can also play in central midfield. 28 caps.

NIEL WESS: Manchester United, aged 28, midfielder. Just recovered from a ruptured Achilles tendon. Proved fitness in FA Cup final. Intelligent, reliable, but one-sided. 19 caps.

BRYAN ROBSON: Manchester United, aged 33, midfielder. Scorer of quickest goal in 1982 final. Captain and inspirational leadership. Wonderful enthusiasm and ability to both defend and attack has masked flagging pace and susceptibility to injury. 54 caps.

JOHN BARNES: Liverpool, aged 28, forward. England's most naturally gifted player and the greatest hope in attack, but tends to drift in and out of international matches. Can be used either as a left-winger or as a central striker. 62 caps.

CHRIS WADDLE: Middlesbrough, aged 29, forward. In fine form for the World Cup after a brilliant season with Middlesbrough. Skilful, elusive and creative with good scoring skills. A powerful and dangerous winger but burst of pace and skills to best any defender. 51 caps.

PETER BEARDSLEY: Liverpool, aged 25, forward. Shot to glory in 1986 as perfect foil to Lineker during the Mexico finals. Skilful, elusive and creative with good scoring skills. A powerful and dangerous winger but burst of pace and skills to best any defender. 51 caps.

STEVE BULL: Wolverhampton Wanderers, aged 25, forward. English centre forward with three goals in his first four international appearances. Can upset the best defences with direct, forceful approach and powerful shooting. Likely substitute. Six caps.

GARY LINEKER: Tottenham Hotspur, aged 29, forward. Top scorer in England's first division on record in 1988. Skilful, elusive and creative with good scoring skills. A powerful and dangerous winger but burst of pace and skills to best any defender. 51 caps.

DAVID PLATT: Aston Villa, aged 23, utility forward or midfielder. Great progress in past year. Can help stop goals and score them equally well. Four caps.

nition he will not be as productive as he was in Mexico four years ago.

Those are the black clouds lying across Bobby Robson's glorious vision. He depends too heavily on the alertness of Walker, the influence of Bryan Robson, and the instincts of Lineker for England to be rated probable world champions.

Yet if England should gain

revenge against the Irish and at least hold the Netherlands, a place among the last 16 would be guaranteed.

Once there, the competition is a lottery. Given the bounce of the ball, Bobby Robson could retire having reinforced England's reputation. To do so, his team would need to reach the last four.

Stuart Jones

REP OF IRELAND

THE only surprise about the Republic of Ireland reaching their first World Cup finals is that they have not done so before. Even prior to taking full advantage of the FIFA rule allowing players to declare for the land of their grandfathers, they had regularly produced enough genuine, quality Irishmen to have qualified for two or three finals.

All they needed was a little moulding; some direction. Whether they needed Jack Charlton's type of directness is a moot point. Liam Brady will argue that there is more than one route to success. But however much outsiders, and a growing number of their victims, may moan about the Republic's stereotypical football, any proud Irishman will joyfully tell you that the end justifies the means.

If only some of the game's more gifted footballers who have turned manager could impart as much of themselves into their teams as Charlton has into his. But then it will always be harder to create than destroy. As Charlton once said: "I was not a great player, but I could stop others from playing." Not that the Republic are a defensive side: in fact, they do as little defending as possible. But in their attempt to maximise their modest resources, they tend to minimise their opportunity of scoring.

The Charlton theory is: "Do unto others as you would not have them do to you." As a player, he hated to be forced to turn and chase back towards his own goal. Consequently, he asks his own players to do exactly that to opposing defences.

Convinced that it is impossible to thread ground passes with consistent success through international defences, Charlton has opted for the heavily bludgeoned long ball. As a result, the Republic's players tend to look alike as they used to say in the old B movies, they are not a pretty sight.

Since Charlton took over they have thrilled me only once with the quality of their football, in the 1-1 draw with the Soviet Union in the European championship finals two years ago.

But the style is successful. In three years, they have been beaten only twice, both times away, and in each case — against the Netherlands and Spain — with reasonable excuse. Landsdowne Road, or to be more precise its quirky pitch, has always been a ground of some foreboding for visitors. Charlton has accentuated even that reputation, and the Republic remain un-

beaten in Dublin after 20 games.

There's a lot more to Charlton, though, than near-dertal tactics. He has managed to impress upon his players the importance of organisation, discipline and hard work. But by no means his smallest achievement has been in persuading them to play in a way in which few of them would be prepared to do for their clubs.

Brady, who is about as opposed to the Charlton way of playing as it is possible to be, freely admits that he played his best football for his country under Charlton, which in itself is a small victory for the Charlton method. Aldridge, sometimes described as the Republic's first line of defence, has been prepared to sacrifice his reputation as a goalscorer to widen his contribution to the team. His former Liverpool colleagues, Houghton, Whelan and Staunton, who know there is another way to winning, have been similarly won over.

Of course, if you want to have an international career, it helps to do as the manager bids, and few managers are as dogmatic about the way they should play as Charlton. Disent, and you are lost. Perhaps therein lies the wicked beauty of the man. There is a conviction about him that rings true, and a confidence that rubs off on those around him. "Stick with me, I'm a winner," he seems to say. Seemingly, the magic of 1966 lives on in Charlton.

His comparative indifference towards the game when placed alongside his first love of hunting and fishing serve only to increase the mystique surrounding his managerial powers, much in the same way as it does Brian Clough whenever he takes off on holiday at the height of the football season. Totally absorbed by the game for its duration, Charlton's enthusiasm notably wanes the moment the final whistle blows, whereas he can wax on knowledgeably and often lyrically for hours on end about leaping salmon, or "bars of silver", as he calls them.

A sensitive man, exemplified by the way he walked out of Newcastle United when the hassle of daily club life became too much, he can be guilty of great insensitivity towards others. Witness the way in which he guillotined the career of Brady with an embarrassing 35th-minute substitution last September.

Comparisons between the success stories of the Republic and Northern Ireland are inevitable. In each case, a lack of resources has fostered a greater camaraderie within the team. The Republic have



Arms and the man: the 1966 magic of Charlton has rubbed off on the Republic side

discovered, as did their Northern cousins, that there is an advantage from having fewer players from which to choose; it is easier to achieve that club-like familiarity, which is the aim of big countries and small alike. Above all, though, it has required unstinting effort from Irishmen north and south of the border to hold their own.

Sceptics see the Republic's heroics ending in tears in Italy, just as Northern Ireland's did in Mexico. Billy Bingham's team suddenly grew too old,

but that does not appear to be the case with Charlton's men, even if, with nine of the squad aged 30 or more, potential is declining daily.

Injuries could be the Republic's undoing. Of the three world class players in their midst, two of them — Houghton and Whelan — are struggling to regain fitness in time for the opening game against England. Ironically, the injury-prone McGrath, who completes the top class trio, is injury free — for the size being. Central defence is

also giving cause for concern, not so much because of the injuries to all three candidates, but because of the uncertainty it creates to an area of the team which has long been known for its dependability.

If the Republic can win the race against time with injuries and progress from an awkward first phase, there is no reason why they should not maintain their reputation as the outstanding "little people" of world football.

Clive White

Republic of Ireland squad

PAT BONNER: Celtic, aged 30, goalkeeper. Skilful, shrewd, and accurate, with 24 shut-outs in 36 games. 38 caps.

GERRY PETTON: Bourmoulli, aged 34, goalkeeper. Reliable understudy to Bonner, so proved against the Soviet Union. 27 caps. CHRIS MORRIS: Celtic, aged 28, defender. Played under Charlton at Hillsborough on wing. Now converted to full back but still struggles with crosses. 21 caps.

STEVE STAUNTON: Liverpool, aged 21, defender. One of squad's most improved members. 12 caps. CHRIS HOUGHTON: Tottenham Hotspur, aged 31, defender. Reliable servant for club and country on either flank. 49 caps.

MIKE SCARFF: Millwall, aged 31, central defender. Made up for lack of pace with grit but struggling after move to France. 42 caps.

KEVIN BURNANE: St Albans Town, aged 24, defender. Accident-prone but big-hearted. Recovering from injury. 49 caps.

DAVID O'LEARY: Arsenal, aged 32, central defender. Battered by Charlton four years ago but now back in favour. 50 caps.

PAUL MCGRATH: Aston Villa, aged 30, defender. World-class player in defence or midfield. Moved to Aston Villa has revitalized him. 36 caps.

RAY HOUGHTON: Liverpool, aged 28, midfielder. One of Republic's outstanding players of past three years. Match winner in Republic's running game. 30 caps.

ANITA TOWERS: Norwich City, aged 27, midfielder. Aggressive yet skilful and widely respected. 11 caps.

KEVIN SHEEHY: Everton, aged 30, midfielder. Superb left-footed player. Great finisher at free kicks but rarely for Irish. 28 caps.

RODNEY WHELAN: Liverpool, aged 28, midfielder. Graceful mover who has matured into the complete player. Team's success may depend upon his recovery from injury. 38 caps.

TONY CASARINCHI: Aston Villa, aged 27, forward. The archetypal target man and a prolific goal scorer, though yet at international level. 21 caps.

JOHN ALFREDDO: Real Sociedad, aged 31, forward. Proven scorer at international level. He opted for the Republic ahead of Scotland, and has got on the goal mark quicker than any of his fellow forwards. Three caps.

JOHN BYRNE: La Herva, aged 29, forward. Nimble-footed. Provides midfield cover on right. 18 caps.

JOHN BERNARDINI: Shamrock Rovers, aged 26, midfielder. Great passer with economical style, though doubts about suitability to Charlton's way of playing. Seven caps.

ALAN MCDONAGH: Swinton Town, aged 23, midfielder. A driving, goal-scoring player who has earned Swinton towards the first division. No caps.

NETHERLANDS

THE return of Ruud Gullit, who could be the outstanding player of the tournament, has reinforced a challenge which was already likely to be great. The champions of Europe, the Dutch are potentially the most complete team among the 24 finalists even though they have recently changed direction after the dismissal of Thijs Libregt.

His contract was scheduled to expire a week before the World Cup final anyway. He was sacked as the result of a mutiny led by Gullit, who publicly criticised him for being too defensive during the qualifying competition. Rinus Michels, who guided them to the European title, was reinstated three months ago.

He was also responsible for lifting them into the World Cup final 16 years ago. After failing to qualify for the 1982 competition, one of his former choices, Krol, said that "a great generation of players like that cannot be expected to be matched for maybe a century".

Within six years, Michels had reintroduced "the whirl", the ultimate in organised free expression, and proved that Krol was not the most dependable of forecasters. He did so with the assistance of four world-class players — Gullit, van Basten, Rijkaard, and Koeman.

EGYPT

THEY were considered the small fry in Group F, an image compounded by the response of the football union's vice-president to the draw. "We have been put between the jaws of two of the world's most powerful teams," Hussein Madhour said. "If it hadn't been a lottery, we'd have said they are out to get us."

Yet neither England nor the Republic of Ireland would have welcomed meeting them first. Even before they embarrassed Scotland at Hampden Park a fortnight ago, Bobby Robson appreciated that the Egyptians have improved considerably and are now more organised than four years ago when his side beat them 4-0 in Cairo.

Mahmoud El-Gohary can take the credit for that. Appointed as the manager in 1988, he stiffened a defence which conceded only seven goals in eight qualifying ties and became a national hero when Egypt beat Algeria, finalists in the previous two World Cups, in the two legs of the play-offs.

Hossam Hassan, who scored the goal which lifted his country into the finals for the

Gullit, with theatrically dramatic timing, rejoined his AC Milan colleagues, van Basten and Rijkaard for the European Cup final last month. No-one astonishingly would have appreciated that he had been out for a full year, undergone three knee operations and been in grave doubt for the tournament itself.

He and the prolific van Basten, voted as the European footballer of the year in both 1989 and 1990, carry the attacking burden between them. Rijkaard, who, like Gullit, can play in every position but goalkeeper, is the principal figure in midfield, and Koeman, of Barcelona, is the commander of their defence.

They were dismantled last week by Austria, conceding three goals before they mounted a response, but Bobby Robson was wary about the apparent setback. "That could be the shock they needed," he said. Within a few days they beat Yugoslavia 2-0.

With their tactical sophistication and their mental and physical aggression, enclosed within the vision of Pele's vision of the beautiful game, they are formidable. They should dismiss Egypt at the start and England's manager, having seen for himself the recovery against the Yugoslavs on television, says that "we are in for some game" in Cagliari on June 16.

first time for 36 years, confirmed at Hampden Park that he is a forward of genuine class. So was Hisham Abdel-Razek until he suffered multiple leg fractures in a car crash last Christmas.

Half of the squad is drawn from Al-Ahly, El-Gohary's own former club, and half a dozen others belong to Zamalek. Only two players are attached to foreign clubs and the team's results earlier in the year indicated that overall they might lack the necessary experience.

They lost 1-0 to the United Arab Emirates in Dubai in January and 2-0 to Algeria in March. Later that month they were also beaten 3-1 at home by Romania, but the unexpected triumph in Glasgow has lifted their morale. Their spirits, however, could immediately be deflated by the Netherlands in Palermo on Tuesday.

If so, their appearance could be as abbreviated as in the 1934 World Cup when they were eliminated in the first round. Yet it would be unwise to underestimate them. Their vice president does not dismiss the possibility of an upset. "The ball is round," he says quietly, "and it has its surprises."

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(Ref. GK1)

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(Ref. GK2)

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Autonomy and true partnership are part and parcel of working alongside the charming director of a small, prestigious charity in W1. You will be working on your own projects and composing your own correspondence. You will be continually liaising with applicants as they come to us to work on their projects. You will be working alongside other marketing executives and their secretaries in this fun company near Hyde Park.

Skills: Audio/50 WPM. Shorthand careful. Please call Lynne Dawson on 071-451 0822.

HOBSTONES

HOBSTONES

Career Opportunities In The West End With Angela Mortimer Ltd

- * PERMANENT POSITIONS - PACKAGES UP TO £25,000 P.A.
- * TEMPORARY POSITIONS - RATES UP TO £9.00 PER HOUR
- * BLUE CHIP WEST END COMPANIES
- * CAREER COUNSELLING

Angela Mortimer Ltd are established market leaders in the field of quality secretarial recruitment. We are currently seeking talented individuals of all ages for a wealth of Blue Chip companies based in the West End. You must, of course, have good typing, word processing and preferably shorthand to take full advantage of these opportunities.

Our teams of highly trained professional consultants will evaluate your qualifications and skills and, taking into account your personal qualities and ambitions, you will receive advice on the best possible position and company to suit you.

For your next career move please contact:-

Tel: 071 287 7788 ANGELA MORTIMER LTD Fax: 071 499 5378

37 Golden Square London W1R 4AH

CHARTLEIGH Appointments

CAREER MOVE

£13,500

Marketing Manager of this fast track construction company needs an assistant that has initiative and ideas. Total involvement is assured. Work on your own and handle all aspects of this company's marketing strategy. If you are flexible, assertive, organised and enjoy a job you can "get your teeth into" call now for an immediate interview. Ref: CE/C236

MOORGATE 071-638 7003

AI ADMINISTRATOR

£15,000

Administrations Supervisor is urgently required to enhance the smooth running of this busy Customer Services Department. Generous holidays, BUPA and an excellent working environment are on offer to an enthusiastic individual, who can negotiate, delegate and communicate to full effectiveness. Ref: PY/C159

HOLBORN 071-430 2291

CHAIRMAN'S PA

circa £14,500

As PA to the Chairman of this well established surveyors firm, you will be liaising with the clients, organising meetings, as well as providing a personal service to this charismatic gentleman. Ideal opportunity to get totally involved; and to be well appreciated for your hard work - great bonus, twice yearly bonus, etc! Ref: SA/C181.

OXFORD CIRCUS 071-255-3140

TV TREAT

£12,000

A junior receptionist/secretary is needed urgently for an expanding international TV company based in the West End! In this buzzing atmosphere you'll never be bored and future prospects are promising! For an interesting new career call us now for further details. Ref: AF/C227.

TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD 071-734-5675

INDUSTRIOUS AND WELL REWARDED

£15,000

This large prestigious company are looking for someone with your industrious and efficient nature to work on a 1-1 basis with their hectic MD. You will be dealing at a very high level liaising with both members of the business world and VIP clients. You will be solely responsible for co-ordinating all travel arrangements, board meetings and other diary commitments. An ideal environment for an ambitious PA. Ref: AM/G12

KNIGHTSBRIDGE 071-225-1777

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

to the Controller of Features and Current Affairs

This is a challenging position covering a wide range of responsibilities from the secretarial, to tasks which are effectively managerial.

It means running the busy office of the Controller of a large programme-making department and taking as much pressure off him as possible.

The qualities needed include both a willingness to accept the more routine aspects of secretarial work, and yet the ability and personality to take the initiative, make mature judgements, foresee problems and run the affairs of the Controller as independently as possible. A willingness to work flexible hours is essential.

We offer a friendly, creative working environment and a lot of fun as well as hard work.

Please write enclosing a cv to Fiona Clark, Personnel Officer, LWT, South Bank Television Centre, London SE1 8LT by 20 June 1990.

Successful applicants will be contacted for interview within six weeks.

LWT is an equal opportunities employer and positively welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

LWT

THE BEST SHOWS

ACCA

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The accountancy profession is growing rapidly and changing fast. As the professional body of over 110,000 members and students, in 120 countries of the world, the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants has a particular responsibility to ensure that the highest professional standards are maintained. The Association is a Recognised Professional Body under the Insolvency Act and the Financial Services Act.

We have a vacancy for an audio secretary, with a thorough knowledge of Wordstar Professional. The successful applicant, who should be a non-smoker, will join a team of three administrative staff in the Secretary's Office and will work primarily for the Deputy Secretary.

The work is varied and interesting, including 'holding the fort' in the Deputy Secretary's frequent absences abroad and providing administrative back-up for a number of educational support programmes. The person appointed will also handle the usual range of secretarial duties - typing correspondence and papers, arranging meetings and travel, organising PR functions, etc.

He or she will be able to communicate well at all levels and to maintain a sense of humour, even while working under pressure. At least 'A' level standard of education is required.

Salary: £216,000.

For further details:

The Secretary's Office
The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants
29 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3EE
Tel: 071-242 6855

STRICTLY NO AGENCIES

071-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

071-481 4481

RECEPTIONIST
£10,000 - £12,000

Two positions available for Receptionists with good typing skills. Our clients - a highly successful Advertising Agency and a dynamic Management Consultancy based in Covent Garden, are seeking bright, enthusiastic Receptionists to answer the phones, greet visitors and act as Secretary to a PR Director and Management Consultant respectively. Excellent presentation and good typing essential. Call Daniela Sutton for further information.

071-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY
RECRUITMENT

Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2

JUNIOR SECRETARY
to £13,000

Start at the very top by joining this fascinating company and working at Director level for a dynamic lady. Training will be provided in all aspects of secretarial work and administration. The work is highly confidential and loyalty and integrity are essential attributes. Our client is a leader in the field of trouble shooting and the work involved is varied and stimulating. Excellent secretarial skills essential (shorthand useful). Call Daniela Sutton.

071-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY
RECRUITMENT

Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2

BOOK PUBLISHING
to £10,500

Prestigious firm of book publishers is looking for a Secretary/Assistant. Working alongside the Editor you will do everything from handling daily correspondence to helping write publicity material. The more involvement you crave the better! This rare opportunity calls for first class secretarial skills including audio and shorthand or speedwriting. Call immediately and speak to Daniela Sutton to arrange an interview.

071-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY
RECRUITMENT

Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2

ADMINISTRATOR
£12,000

Your excellent interpersonal skills and natural flair for organising will be utilised to the full when you assist at exhibitions, events, lunches and meetings. As Administrator for this trade association you will provide unsupervised organisational support to committees and interest groups. Set up and attend meetings at senior level, and ensure that your delegates don't arrive from the airport! The ideal person will be a graduate with an outgoing personality, tact and diplomacy, good listening and accurate typing skills. Shorthand not essential.

071-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY
RECRUITMENT

Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2

BARRISTERS'
CHAMBERS

In the Inner Temple require a Personable Telephonist/Receptionist with first class secretarial skills. Accurate typing with an eye for detail and occasional shorthand.

Salary £15,500 pa

PLEASE APPLY IN WRITING TO:
PHILIP MONTAGNA
11 KINGS BENCH WALK
TEMPLE
LONDON EC4A 7EQ

College Leaver
To £12,500 + bonus

Immensely successful firm in the Executive Search field urgently seeks a well-educated College Leaver to work with a fun team of three consultants. Unfailing enthusiasm, team spirit and flexibility are seen as vital qualities needed for future progression. In addition to normal secretarial support (35 wpm typing requested), you'll be typing up advertisements, co-ordinating their frantic diaries, liaising with clients and candidates, assist with research, surveys etc and also provide rota reception relief. Age 19+. If you love pace and a deadline, we want to hear from you! Call 071-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

Centre Court seats ...

£11,000 - PR

Offbeat, front-line opening for a quick-thinking fast-start! Rise to the challenge offered by this progressive and fast-moving PR consultancy and excellent career prospects are yours! Working closely with 2 Account Execs on several major accounts, one of which concentrates on sponsorship, corporate hospitality and events - Wimbledon etc, your day will involve lots of liaison with the press - trade magazines, exhibition organisers, booking sponsorship venues, getting involved in cable TV etc. 55 wpm typing essential. Age 20+. Admin-orientated role so good organiser vital! To know more call 071-409 1232.

Recruitment Consultants
in the Communications IndustryTHE
WORK
SHOPEXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
£18,000 NEG

A unique career opportunity awaits a graduate with the international corporation. Assisting their dynamic chief executive you'll be your collaborative and interpersonal skills to the full. Implement projects on your boss's behalf, liaise worldwide and organise hectic schedules. 90/50 skills.

Please telephone 071 248 3744
2 Bow Lane, London EC4M 9EE.Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTSEXECUTIVE PA
£18,500

This well known international company seek an experienced PA to assist their managing partner. He's an extremely busy and charismatic boss, who will rely on you to ensure the smooth running of his office. An excellent opportunity is needed together with 90/50 skills.

Please telephone 071 248 3744
2 Bow Lane, London EC4M 9EE.Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTSSECRETARY/ASSISTANT - RETAIL
MARKETING DISTRIBUTION

We require a bright intelligent secretary with good organisational skills to assist on the retail marketing distribution side. You will be handling dealer queries, helping organise mailouts, as well as performing the usual secretarial duties for 3 members of the team (good typing/w.p. experience is essential). The successful applicant will be willing to get involved, which sometimes means working late. However, the working environment is young and friendly and teamwork is of the essence. Experience of working within a marketing/customer service department would be an advantage. Expected age range is 20-25 years.

SECRETARY - MARKETING

This post also requires involvement and good typing skills (shorthand would be a distinct advantage). You will be working for a team of people and need a good telephone manner as telephone calls come in constantly from agencies, trade journals and members of the public. You will be dealing with promotions and advertising and good organisational skills are essential.

Company benefits include five weeks' holiday, a contributory pension scheme and BUPA.

Please write with full c.v., stating which post you are applying for and including daytime phone number and current salary to: Louise Stott, Personnel Officer, Sky Television, 6 Centaurs Business Park, Grant Way, Isleworth, Middlesex, TW7 5DP or ring 071 782 3654 or 071 782 3254 for an application form.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO
THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Salary up to £18,165 per annum

An outstanding and challenging opportunity has arisen to contribute to Aston's development as a leading technological university.

We are seeking to appoint someone with exceptional administrative ability to support the Vice-Chancellor, in his role as the chief academic and administrative officer of the University. This stimulating and rewarding post provides the vital link between the Vice-Chancellor, the internal university community and the outside world. The person appointed will be responsible for the overall administration of the Vice-Chancellor's office, including the supervision of secretarial staff. If you possess a good degree and modern secretarial skills, together with the necessary interpersonal skills and experience of working at a similar level, we would like to hear from you.

Application form and further details available from Personnel Officer (Non-Academic), Aston University, Aston Triangle, Birmingham B4 7ET or by telephoning (021-359 5350) (24-hour answering machine) quoting reference 9031/T.

Closing date for applications: 29th June, 1990.

ASTON UNIVERSITY

P.A. TO M.D. UP TO £17K.
PAID OVERTIME. BONUS.
WEST END.

A true PA role has arisen within this thriving international company. As the M.D.'s right hand, you will be responsible for the organisation of his day, 70% administrative involving travel, itineraries, synchronising board meetings, a great deal of client contact, supervision of the clerical staff. If you are looking for a company that will reward your efforts and have more than a few perks, call Jo Nichols on 071-486 4951 ZARAK REC CONS.

Zarak Partnerships

THE ROYAL COLLEGE
OF RADIOLOGISTS

The Royal College of Radiologists is the professional and examining body responsible for the medical specialties of Diagnostic Radiology and Radiotherapy and Oncology.

PA to the
Education Secretary

to provide secretarial support, and to assist with administrative work including servicing of Education Committee and associated sub-committees.

The post will appeal to applicants with a sound secretarial background wishing to develop their administrative skills. Shorthand and WP experience essential.

The successful applicant will join a happy and committed team within this small friendly organisation, housed in a Georgian building in W1.

Salary on scale £11,482-£14,846. Staff receive 4 weeks' annual leave, LVS, interest-free season ticket loan. Non-smokers please.

Applications in writing to:

Mrs. I. Stephenson,
Education Secretary,
The Royal College of Radiologists,
28 Portland Place,
London W1N 3DG.

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APPOINTMENTS LTD

071 497 2233

DIRECTOR'S SEC BANKING
£15,500 + MORT SUB + OVERTIME
Working at Director level your work will involve you in high profile Mergers and Take-over bids. SW/FP skills 90/100 and flexibility to work generously paid overtime hours.

ADVISORY SEC AMERICAN CO
£15,000 + BENS + OVERTIME
Dynamic Executive of American owned Management Consultancy needs young (21+) confident 2nd Jobber WP Sec (sh useful) to assist him in his role of Technical Management Advisor to well-known 'blue chip' clients. Definite career move.

MANFIELD HOUSE

376-379 STRAND, LONDON WC2 0LR

DRAKE PERSONNEL

PASSPORT TO PIMLICO

£17,000

Develop your potential to the full when you assist the MD of this rapidly expanding European division of a highly successful American concern. Take responsibility for selling so systems, maintain current project files, co-ordinate meetings and liaise extensively with their clients. With your consistent hard work and Wordstar expertise call Elaine Maffei on 071-534 0385.

FULHAM

Based Property Company seeks Second Jobber. Excellent telephone manner, fast accurate typing, audio but no S/H, W.P. experience essential. £10,000 aae. Free parking.

Please call Amanda Griffiths on 071-371 5166 or fax your C.V. to 071-371 5332.

Secretary to
Personnel Manager

c.£18,500 package + BUPA

Central London

At BUPA Health Insurance, we now have an opportunity for an experienced and responsible Secretary to join our high profile Personnel Department which provides a service to BUPA staff nationwide.

The Personnel Manager will rely on you not only to provide excellent secretarial support but also a whole range of other administrative and liaison duties. You will deal with:

■ recruitment ■ administering the job evaluation scheme ■ providing reports from the Unipersonnel system ■ plus constant internal and external telephone and personal contact.

Aware at all times of current issues within the department and able to handle them with tact and discretion, you have the capacity to cope under pressure and to juggle a variety of changing priorities on a daily basis.

In fact, variety is what this job is all about. So, if you have at least 3 years' secretarial experience, combining excellent audio typing skills, a high level of personal organisation and, ideally, a knowledge of Unipersonnel, then we look forward to hearing from you.

Telephone 071-333 5212 for an application form, or write with your CV to the Personnel Manager, BUPA, Rowell House, Essex Street, London WC2R 3AX.

BUPA
Britain feels better for it.Completely
Reliable
£14,000 + banking bens

The newly appointed Head of Operations of well known financial institution is looking for an enthusiastic PA to help him set up his department. The ability to think on your feet will enable you to juggle his meetings and lunches and to keep up with the new contacts he makes. If you have an interest in, or experience of, a graphics package as well as good shorthand, audio and typing, please call Elizabeth Williamson on 071-256 5018.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTSINSTITUTE INVOLVED IN
EUROPEAN ISSUES

Secretariat based in London W5, organising conferences, producing publications, understanding research and advising senior executives, is looking for an additional member for small, happy team. Applicants should be responsible, enthusiastic secretaries, and have good telephone and administrative skills with an eye for detail. Knowledge of French and/or German an asset. Please telephone 081 579 4688 between 9am and 5pm.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

INTERIOR DESIGN

£14,000

There is a young, creative environment when you assist the planning and as your hand person. Provide creative architectural support. Develop your organisational skills and learn all aspects of the business when you join the team. Call Amanda Maffei on 071-534 0385.

PROPERTY
SECRETARY FOR TWO PARTNERS

Experienced shorthand/ WP secretary (min. 100/70) with extensive, advanced Wordperfect knowledge needed by two Partners of a busy professional property practice situated close to Liverpool Street. Flexible, professional attitude, ability to work in a highly pressurized position and on own initiative essential. Good organisational skills and sense of humour vital.

For details about our first class salary package telephone or send C.V. to: Annabelle Lawrence, 47A Fitzwilliam, 40 Colindale Avenue, LONDON N4 3AA. FAX 071-267 1501 Telephone 071-377 6666

HALCYON DAYS
AT HARRODS

A special opportunity to sell antiques and objets d'art in an elegant setting.

An aptitude for the display of precious items an advantage.

Excellent salary and prospects for someone with top retail experience.

Please Telephone Sara Sweetland
071 629 8811

£14,500

2nd Jobber

Small, yet prestigious Shipping Co. who are offering superb team. Act. free lunches & Health Club membership, are recruiting for all round Sec. with excellent SH when can make the MD, become involved in all shipping admin & enjoy a professional image while dealing with V.I.P. Clients. Full training on all computerised equipment, within luxurious offices.

The 071-379 4922 or Fax CV to 071-379 4944
OPUS REC CONS

INTERIOR
DESIGN

£14,000

A well established, expanding interior design company is looking for a PA for one of their founding Creative Directors and his project manager.

As their right hand man, you will be constantly on the move, using your initiative, organising their hectic business lives, as well as having the opportunity to take on your own responsibilities in their absence.

You will be an editor with proven secretarial abilities and enjoy working in a lively, off-beat environment.

Skills 50 wpm typing
Age 20-25
Mediad Rec Cons
071 481 3848

£18,000++
PA TO
CHAIRMAN

As PA/Sec to high

flying and influential

Chairman of

prestigious Corporate

Finance Co., you will

have Director level

experience, be well

educated and

presented, articulate,

enjoy pressure and

working in an

entrepreneurial

environment. City

experience useful. At

task, an opportunity for

responsibility and

involvement.

Age 24 - 28

Skills: 90/55

HANOVER
SQUARE
071-408 1461
ANGELA MORTIMERINTERNATIONAL BANK
c£21,000

Join in with the excitement, challenge and cut and thrust of the highly successful Foreign and Equities team. You will be responsible for a positive attitude, excellent secretarial skills and be someone who thrives under pressure and responsibility. Fluent French would be useful but is not essential.

Age 20-34 Speaks 90/50 wpm.

FASHION PR
£13,000

One-off opportunity for a young secretary/assistant to join a top PR Company who deal with the fashion world. There will be lots of client contact and you will be helping to organise Fashion Shows and Exhibitions; 50% secretarial work. A confident telephone manner and polished presentation essential. Fair for writing and experience in PR preferable.

Age 19-24. Typing 60 wpm.

Please call us for an interview with 6pm

LONDON BRUSSELS

CUSTOMER RELATIONS
£17k + Benefits

Internationally renowned Travel Co., W1 is seeking an articulate person to run the customer relations dept. The successful applicant requires 'A' Level English, excellent communication skills and levels, should be helpful, diplomatic, able to take the initiative and make decisions - above all a sense of humour is essential. Previous exp in travel useful, age 30+. Call 071 323 3388.

RECISECOORDINATOR
£11,500 + Exc Bens

SW1 Property Co require a fun & friendly Receptionist/Sec. Nowwithbach, very involved, a good organiser is needed to arrange meetings, lunches and greet visitors. Reasonable typing skills - call Jane on 071 323 3388.

VISA
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Bond Street Bureau

STARS IN YOUR EYES

£12,000

Life in the fast lane is an understatement when you work for this fabulous organisation! Fast rising PR, organising exhibitions, conferences, events, liaising, sponsorship co-ordination are just some of your daily tasks in this highly interesting and varied job. The lucky person who is chosen will be used to a busy environment, have standard skills and preferably be an experienced sec.

(Rec Cons)

22 South Molton St, W1 (071) 629 5580

(071) 629 3692

Secretary/
Receptionist

Small W1 advertising agency is searching for a lively, bright person to look after them. Fast, accurate typing essential, working on the Apple Macintosh computer. Shorthand preferable, general filing and receptionist duties are all required.

Age 24 - 28

Skills: 90/55

Salary £12,000 p.a.

Please ring Julie Dicketts

on 071-278 1885.

Central London Living Co.

071-730 8586

URGENT!

Secretary required for

Laying Agents in Chelsea. Must be

presentable and well spoken.

Good telephone manner

essential. Enquiries to:

Central London Living Co.

071-730 8586

PRACTISE
FRENCH
in St. James
for c. £15,000

Management consultancy is the business. Sec/PA to a Senior Director is the job. Use your excellent organisational and typing skills (really s/h ok) to assist this busy director who travels. Lots of admin, client liaison and travel arrangements to make, in beautiful offices with lovely staff. Conversational French is essential in addition to a capable and confident personality. Age 24+ with a salary c. £15,000 +. For details ring

MARY
OVERTON

35 Piccadilly, London W1V 9PB Tel: 071 734 7282

FULHAM PA

£18,000 pa neg!

Are you free to work in West London? Would you welcome an opportunity to work for a top boss, whose experience and interests span both the publishing world and television industry? Are you a talented Secretary (shorthand c100 wpm required), who appreciates that your boss isn't a 'nine to five', therefore you're likely to be putting in the hours as well? If we're describing you, we'd love to hear from you in respect of this much sought-after role, acting as Right Hand to a Chief Executive of this major, international Publishing Group. Call Marina Melville on 071-491 1888.

City Crème

LA CRÈME RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

HEAD OF
ADMINISTRATION

c£20,000

Specialist training company seek commercially aware Office Manager with effective communication and organisational skills. Supervise a team of six, co-ordinate payroll, invoices, rates, etc. negotiate with Ad agencies, houses and printers, handle recruitment and building maintenance. Self organising, confident person with excellent presentation. Basic typing.

Please telephone 071 408 0247
10-20 Brook's Mews, London W1X 8PD.

Elizabeth Hunt

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA
£16,000

Senior Partner of Design practice requires person with mature outlook, sound involvement and responsibility. Top skills and the ability to communicate with people on all levels. Professional background preferable but not essential. If you enjoy a creative and young atmosphere then call Marie on 071-286 2630 (rec Cons).

CV Reply to 3034 P28

ADMINISTRATOR
W9

This Design Studio in W9

specialises in interiors and

architecture. Good WP skills,

general admin and an ability to

communicate with people on

all levels. Professional

background preferable but not

essential. If you enjoy a

creative and young

atmosphere then call Marie on

071-286 2630 (rec Cons).

ARRISTERS CHAMBERS

Leasehold property in a prime location, close to the City, with excellent transport links. The property is suitable for a variety of uses, including offices, retail, or residential. Contact us for more details.

EXECUTIVE PA £18,500

Leasehold property in a prime location, close to the City, with excellent transport links. The property is suitable for a variety of uses, including offices, retail, or residential. Contact us for more details.

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RECEPTION SELECTION

RECEPTIONIST GRAPHIC DESIGN/ EXHIBITION COMPANY WEST END

Close involvement and excellent promotion prospects are offered to a bright Receptionist able to take the pace in this hectic, lively office. Acting as Anchor person to the company, you must have plenty of initiative, experience with Monarch switchboard and some typing experience (40 wpm). Hours 9.30 - 5.30, Salary £11,000.

Bernadette of Bond Street
25 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0ND
071-629 1204
(Fax: 01-629 9754)
Recruitment Consultants

EXPERIENCED TEMPORARY RECEPTIONISTS AND SWITCHBOARD OPERATORS

If you are looking for temporary work and have experience working on several switchboards, please call us immediately for an interview. Call us now...

Bernadette of Bond Street
25 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0ND
071-629 1204
(Fax: 01-629 9754)
Recruitment Consultants

RECEPTIONIST WEST END

A busy consultancy seeks an intelligent Receptionist with typing, WP experience and an excellent telephone manner. Initiative, enthusiasm, ability to work on your own, or within a team, and previous experience are all qualities needed in the successful applicant. In return, there is a highly competitive salary, and a chance to become fully involved in the company's business. Hours 8.45 - 5.30 Please call

Bernadette of Bond Street
25 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0ND
071-629 1204
(Fax: 01-629 9754)
Recruitment Consultants

TEMPTING TIMES

"I'M JUST TEMPTING" IF YOU EVER SAY THAT, READ ON

Being a temporary secretary can mean many different things. So much depends on the challenges, variety, rates and assignments - and the professionalism of your Consultants. Here is where our experience can really help by accurately assessing both your needs and your potential.

If you have excellent shorthand as well as audio or WP skills, and are flexible, well-presented and 23 plus, you need never say "I'm just tempting". Let us help you prove it with interesting and varied assignments in the West End and City.

Senior Secretaries

173 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PB

071-499 0092

(Fax: 071-491 7278)

Recruitment Consultants

DIRECTORS' TEMPORARIES

TEMPORARIES NEEDED

We have a varied and interesting temporary assignments at director level. Good shorthand and WP skills needed including: Multimedia, Domestic, Wordperfect, DMS and Apple Mac (with spreadsheet) etc. Age 25-35.

071 629 9323

APPLY MAC (Microsoft) Word. Two terms, one with short-term, one with long-term. Both require a minimum of 2 years' experience in a secretarial role. Top rates. Directors' Secretaries. Call 071 629 9323.

CO-ORDINATOR: secretarial services. 3-month contract. International business travel. Excellent opportunity for a professional secretary to coordinate and administer services to the small business sector. Salary £20,000 per annum. 2-3 years experience in a secretarial role. Good shorthand and WP skills. Call 071 629 9323.

MARKETING Assistant/Marketing Director. A long-term position. Excellent opportunity for a professional secretary to assist in the marketing department. Salary £20,000 per annum. 2-3 years experience in a secretarial role. Good shorthand and WP skills. Call 071 629 9323.

START Tuesday 15th City. 2-3 years experience in a secretarial role. Good shorthand and WP skills. Call 071 629 9323.

WOMEN'S Temp. Top rates. Top secretarial skills. Excellent opportunity for a professional secretary to assist in the women's department. Salary £20,000 per annum. 2-3 years experience in a secretarial role. Good shorthand and WP skills. Call 071 629 9323.

WOMEN'S Temp. Top rates. Top secretarial skills. Excellent opportunity for a professional secretary to assist in the women's department. Salary £20,000 per annum. 2-3 years experience in a secretarial role. Good shorthand and WP skills. Call 071 629 9323.

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THE TIMES sets the scene for the Ever Ready Derby at Epsom today

Coming to terms with the camber

By JACK WATERMAN

THE intricacies of the Derby course, a kind of devil's cauldron, cleft in the Epsom Downs, are well-advertised: the long uphill rise after the start, the sweep of descent into Tattenham Corner, the dip 100 yards from the winning post and the uphill finish.

These are ingredients which, in one form or another, have for more than two centuries dictated the searching severity of the race as a test for three-year-olds.

There is, however, an additional factor: the camber of the track running the length of the straight from the stands side. It is at its most severe in the dip, opposite Tattenham's enclosure. At this point, the head of a racehorse standing at the far rails would be below the ground level of the book-makers' pitches opposite.

According to a survey conducted by the racecourse in 1978, the precise fall here is 7.49 feet. At the winning post the course still slopes across significantly, by 5.86 feet.

As far as the Night Rider Handicap is concerned, this is probably best left to Jodelle Bay who showed the requisite speed at Goodwood last time when making all the running for an impressive success in the hands of Willie Carson, his rider again today.

Carson can end the day on a good note too by winning the Craven Handicap on Gracie, who will appreciate coming back to seven furlongs.

Wassil Part, who showed such an unlucky loss at Chester, where he was last seen, is taken to go one better in the Buttery Handicap.

At Yarmouth, Chief Orchestrate (2.0) and Adami (4.0) are taken to give Henry Cecil and Willie Bay a double, but their stable companion Quin Laude could well be foiled by Wassil in the Merchant's House Fillies Stakes.

At Epsom this afternoon, Gerald Mossé attempts to rewrite the punche. Not since Yves Saint-Martin won on Relko 27 years ago has a French jockey won the Derby, a sequence Mossé, on Linamix, will attempt to break without even a previous ride on the track.

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This is an unknown quantity for a majority watching the great annual spectacle, for the camber is invisible from a certain height in the stands; nor do television cameras from their vantage points give much indication during running.

As Michael Webster, Epsom's clerk of the course, puts it: "Most people know all about the rest of the course, but few realise that the camber can cause real problems both for tired horses and inexperienced jockeys."

But if the public is largely unaware, the riders are well alerted. Walter Swinburn, successful in the Ever Ready Derby, on Shergar, and Shahrazad, says: "It's very much a problem if a horse is getting tired and tends to hang in, but also if you go to make a challenge from that side, the camber can make you come across sharper than you intended."

He cited then the instance of Lord Grundy who did precisely that in the Blue Riband Trial five years ago. Swinburn finished second, but the horse was disqualified and he earned a suspension.

Ray Cochrane, who rode Kahyasi to victory two seasons ago, says: "The straight falls noticeably down towards the far rails and tired horses will drift in that direction and trap you. The best position is away from danger on the outside."

From an older generation, Geoff Lewis, rider of one of the great winners of the century, Mill Reef, explains that the secret of dealing with the sideways slope is knowing how and when to pull the whip through, and equally, in cer-

tain circumstances, "When to put your stick down."

Nonetheless, Epsom, where he now trains, remains emphatically his favourite course. "It brings out the best in horses and the best in jockeys. It's like a moderate horse."

It needs all the concentration and attention you can muster as well as a little bit of luck. But in the end, it's all feel, it all comes down to that."

With that in mind, how has this factor affected Derby finishes in the past? The answer is that some horses have notably conquered the camber. For example, Golden Fleece in 1982, after hanging badly to the left, responded to Eddery's strong handling. By contrast, earlier, there had been a desperate battle in the final two furlongs between Lester Piggott on Roberto and Ernie Johnson on Rheingold, who provided a prime example of how seriously a tired Derby horse can hang away from the stands rails.

Johnson, in the final 100 yards, had his hands full keeping the colt straight, let alone being able to ride a proper finish, and Rheingold was beaten a short head.

Exactly 20 years before then, Piggott himself, then only 16 years old, rode Gay Time who was beaten three-quarters of a length by Tulyar, ridden by the veteran Charlie Smirke.

Inside the distance, after being in all kinds of trouble, Piggott got a powerful run from Gay Time which took him to Tulyar's quarters. But Gay Time, tiring up the rise, began to hang while Smirke kept Tulyar going.

Piggott, however, maintained that Tulyar hung the other way and interference cost him his first Derby success. But the question remains: Did a combination of the sideways shelving course and lack of experience contribute to that same result?

Whatever the answer, one thing is sure: Epsom's camber has in the past played a controversial part in shaping Turf history.

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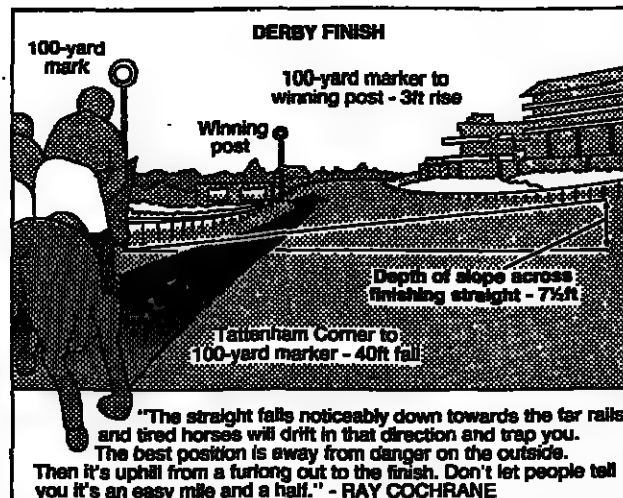
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Opposition to the market leaders as rain clouds gather

By MICHAEL SEELY

RACING CORRESPONDENT

AS THE storm clouds threaten Epsom yesterday, the betting on this afternoon's Ever Ready Derby started to take a wider range as significant market opposition developed both to Razzen, the favourite, and also to Linamix, the French challenger.

Razzen, one-time as short as 5-2 to give both Steve Caughan and Henry Cecil their third win together in Britain's most important horse race, is now generally on offer at 7-2. And despite the confidence being expressed by both Francois Boutin and Gerald Mossé, the French 2,000 Guineas winner's price has slipped dramatically from 5-1 to 8-1.

During the day a major gamble developed on Zoman, Paul Cole's French 2,000 Guineas runner-up is now quoted at 11-2 with William Hill and as low as 9-2 with Coral.

Discussing the latest moves, Mike Dillon of Ladbrokes said: "The support for Zoman is very significant. We even laid a cash bet of £10,000 each-way at 6-1 in one of our shops."

The other horse that has been well backed this week is Quest For Fame, who will be attempting to complete an extraordinary Derby double.

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French challenger gets to know the course's ups and downs

By MICHAEL SEELY

RACING CORRESPONDENT

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Statistics point to Beckhampton hope

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Yesterday's results from two meetings

Yarmouth
Going good (st, dry, down to firm (m))
2.0 (9.25) 1, EL DUNERO (J. Reid, 7.4) 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 19

CYCLING

Adventure is lost among the pack on moors pursuit

By Peter Bryan

AN IDEAL course, hard enough to produce a significant reshuffle among the top positions, failed to prompt the adventurous over the North York Moors on yesterday's eighth stage of the Milk Race from Bridlington to Middlesbrough.

There were only two important breakaway attempts during the 102-mile leg, the first of which, with eight riders, including Cavin Theakston, the Prologue winner, and Matthew Stephens, Britain's amateur climbing specialist, looked at the time the more workmanlike.

But their freedom was short-lived and they fell back into the main field, already depleted by one when Britain's Wayne Randle, injured in a heavy fall last week and now suffering from a cold, retired.

The race came alive again at 31 miles, soon after the climb of Nettledeale, when Nigel Bishop, of Britain, Joe Parkin, the American professional with the Tulip team, and Danny Nesken, of La William, went clear and quickly into a two-minute lead.

Bishop, who wore the race leader's yellow jersey last year, was the first over the Lockton Low Moor climb, 23 miles later, and third on the Widow Howe Moor (61 miles), with the bunch two minutes eight seconds behind and looking as though they were keeping a tighter rein on the fugitives.

Another climb nine miles later, at Lythe Bank, saw Bishop flagging, his reserves spent. A similar fate awaited the two survivors 14 miles from the finish when they were engulfed by the bunch during a torrential downpour.

A mass of 84 riders gathered for the final sprint on the one-mile finishing circuit before the verdict went to Uwe Freissler, giving East German

many its second successive stage victory.

Shane Sutton, of Banana-Falcon, kept his overall race lead for the seventh day and paid tribute to the protection his team had given him, especially Keith Reynolds, last year's runner-up, who undertook much of the pace-setting which helped to contain the breakaways.

Reynolds, once his job was done, fell back and finished more than 11 minutes behind. The Banana-Falcon's ability to control the race thwarted those who had seen the stage as a turning point in the 1,200-mile event.

Today's run from Sunderland to Carlisle will give the climbers another chance to shine on the Pennine crossing but time is running out for everyone, other than the Banana riders, it seems, if there are to be substantial changes before the race ends in Liverpool on Saturday.

RESULTS: Eighth stage (Bridlington to Middlesbrough, 102 miles). 1. U Freissler (GER), 4hr 55min 45sec; 2. R van de Ven (NED), 5hr 1min 22sec; 3. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 4. D Rennie (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 5. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 6. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 7. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 8. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 9. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 10. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec.

TOTAL: Ninth stage (Sunderland to Carlisle, 102 miles). 1. U Freissler (GER), 4hr 55min 45sec; 2. R van de Ven (NED), 5hr 1min 22sec; 3. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 4. D Rennie (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 5. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 6. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 7. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 8. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 9. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec; 10. S Sutton (GB), 5hr 1min 22sec.

Bugno shines in rain

VARSE, Italy. (Reuters) - Gianni Bugno won the penultimate stage of the Giro d'Italia race more than one minute ahead of his nearest rival yesterday despite changing cycles halfway through a rain-swept uphill time trial.

Bugno's victory in the nineteenth stage extended his overall lead over the Frenchman, Clément Mottet, to six minutes and 33 seconds and left him virtually certain of taking the Giro title.

The final stage today is a 102-mile circuit through the centre of Milan, where only a disaster could rob Bugno of wearing the Giro leader's pink jersey from start to finish.

RESULTS: Nineteenth stage (Biancamano to Milan, 102 miles). 1. G Bugno (ITA), 1hr 1min 22sec; 2. M Mottet (FRA), 1hr 2min 22sec; 3. L Lucifora (ITA), 1hr 3min 22sec; 4. C Mottet (FRA), 1hr 4min 22sec; 5. G Bugno (ITA), 1hr 5min 22sec; 6. M Mottet (FRA), 2hr 0min 22sec; 7. L Lucifora (ITA), 2hr 1min 22sec; 8. C Mottet (FRA), 2hr 2min 22sec; 9. G Bugno (ITA), 2hr 3min 22sec; 10. M Mottet (FRA), 2hr 4min 22sec.

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BOWLS

Selectors change policy

By David Rhys Jones

ENGLAND, departing from the cautious selection strategy that brought them seven successive victories in the home international series between 1983 and 1989, surprisingly include six new caps and recall two former team members in the side to defend the *Worcester Trophy* at Methil in Scotland from July 4 to 6.

Gary Smith has been named as a reserve, and is replaced by Mervyn King, who gained his first indoor cap in March. Jimmy Adams will play three to David Ward, while Grant Burgess and Ted Hanger have the responsibility of looking after the back-end of the new sixth rink.

Alan Harding, the English champion, and Iain Boyle, who holds the British junior title, are in for the first time, but have been placed at lead with Tony Allcock and David Bryant, respectively.

Wales introduced a new captain, Andrew Atwood, Gwyneth Ellis, Mike Prosser and Iwan Terry - and recall Phil Rowlands, of Penarth.

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● TENNIS 54
● GOLF 55

Scots fix steely gaze on C Rica

ANDY Roxburgh, the Scotland football coach, has his sights no further ahead than his squad's opening game against Costa Rica on Monday. "That is our World Cup final," he said yesterday.

Roxburgh, whose squad flies to Italy this morning, insisted: "We are not looking beyond that first game against Costa Rica. It is our big event, the key match and we are totally blinkered about it."

He added: "If we can do well on Monday it will be a tremendous launching pad for the rest of the tournament. If not, we face a big uphill climb. There is certainly no way we can afford to pace ourselves in that first tie. We intend treating Costa Rica as if they are Brazil or Sweden."

With Monday afternoon's game in Genoa's Luigi Ferraris stadium in mind, Roxburgh held a full practice match at Kilmarnock yesterday. "We have less than a week before that vital match against Costa Rica," he said. "We must be absolutely sure that the 11 players we put on the field go out and run themselves into the ground for Scotland."

Roxburgh is confident that his players will be sharp after their brief interlude at home following last week's hard training in Malta. However, several players have needed, in Roxburgh's words, "running repairs" in the last few weeks. Alex McLeish has not played since breaking his nose against Egypt on May 16, while the versatile midfielder player, Murdoch MacLeod, returned to his club, Borussia Dortmund, at the weekend for treatment on a groin injury. Mo Johnston, the forward, is improving by the day although still unable to train.

Dismissals will be expensive

Players shown two yellow cards or sent off during the World Cup finals will be fined up to 30,000 Swiss francs (approximately £12,575) on top of the automatic suspension they receive. The move is part of the campaign to encourage fair play.

● Although Rome's Olympic Stadium, the venue for the World Cup final, does not comply fully with safety standards, it has been granted special dispensation so that it can be used.

● CALDARO: The West German central defender, Jürgen Kohler, may miss his country's opening World Cup match against Yugoslavia because of a muscle injury.

England's goodwill gesture

FROM STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
ORISANO, SARDINIA

Sardinian XI 2
England 10

ENGLAND started their last practice game here yesterday with a plea for supporters to behave themselves during the World Cup finals. The message was delivered in the shape of a deliberate own goal and, except for Beardsley's contribution, it was the most meaningful gesture of an otherwise empty public relations exercise.

The stunt was staged in front of scarcely 2,500 spectators but primarily for the television cameras. An official statement, broadcast over the loud speaker system, asked England's supporters: "Not to score own goals against football during this summer's World Cup. Say no to violence."

No more than a dozen were present at the fixture held here on the west coast of the island, as Bull kicked off and Beardsley rolled the ball back to McMahon, who had been chosen to illustrate the symbolic request more graphically. Earlier Jack Wiseman, the head of the England delegation, provided his own verbal reinforcement.

"We know that 99.9 per cent of the supporters in Italy for the World Cup want nothing more than to enjoy the football in peace. Our message is aimed at the few who might act violently out of a misplaced sense of patriotism. No country needs that kind of support."

"It is like giving away a goal before the match has even started."

The opposition drawn from third and fourth division clubs and including a sprinkling of amateurs, joined in the spirit of the festive occasion by immediately offering England an equalizer. It was provided, inadvertently as it happens, by the one prominent guest. Zola represents Napoli and is the regular understudy for Maradona although nobody could have guessed his professional background from his manner. He was as half hearted as the rest of his estranged colleagues.

Immediately, it was predictable that their defeat would be of heavy proportions.

England's final tally should have been 15 and might have been 20. It did not matter. "It was fun," Bobby Robson, the manager, said, "and we didn't loiter."

Seaman, though, was uncharacteristically startled by free kicks. One ricocheted off the bar and another, from Tomasso, beat him early in the second half.

For the record, Webb and Beardsley each scored three of England's goals. Bull claimed two and Flatt and McMahon added the others. The only wrong note in the attractive tune was heard during the



Getting to grips: A Sardinian player tries an unorthodox method of halting Beardsley in England's last warm-up

interval when they were 5-1 ahead. Wright complained of a twinge in his neck.

He was taken off as a precautionary measure and Robson expects his central defender to have recovered in a day or two, making him available for the opening tie against the Republic of Ireland next Monday. No one else was hurt during the sultry afternoon which ended amid a fine spray of drizzle.

Beardsley, Dorigo and McMahon were the prominent figures, if anything can be read into such a one-sided, gentle romp. Beardsley has belatedly come back into genuine contention for a place in the starting line-up.

"I was a bit worried at half-time because he hadn't scored any," the England manager said. "But once he changed from creator to attacker, he looked hungry and that's his best game since coming back from injury."

Since Dorigo impressed as well, it is all the more regrettable that he has not been introduced earlier as the left back.

Although Butcher was deliberately chosen by Robson



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to be the captain, McMahon ran the show from beginning to end and scored the most spectacular of the dozen goals. He overshadowed Webb, who again gave the impression that the World Cup is about to open a few weeks too early for him.

SARDINIAN XI: G. Nici, S. Spano, G. Moro, G. Bortolotti, F. Tomasso, G. Marzocco, A. Marinuzzi, W. Toli, G. Emma, S. Zola, A. Costa.
ENGLAND: D. Seaman (Arsenal); G. Stevenson (Preston); M. Wright (Derby County); S. Hodge (Nottingham Forest); J. Butcher (Preston); A. Dorigo (Chelsea); T. Burton (Preston); N. Webb (Manchester United); S. McMahon (Liverpool); D. Flatt (Aston Villa); P. Beardsley (Liverpool); S. Bull (Nottingham Forest).
Referee: G. Gensini.

Whelan ruled out of England game

FROM CLIVE WHITE, RABAT

THE Republic of Ireland were forced yesterday to acknowledge that because of injury they will be without Ronnie Whelan, their driving force in midfield, against England in midweek, and in all probability at least a further game in the opening phase of the World Cup.

Whelan, who broke a bone in a foot playing for Liverpool against Arsenal on April 18, has declined so far to take part in any serious training here and forced Jack Charlton, the Republic of Ireland manager, to concede that he will be without one of his most influential players for the game against England. "I won't take a chance with anyone. The people who play have got to be exactly right," Charlton said.

In attempting to improve muscle tone after the removal

of his plaster a fortnight ago, Whelan has developed strains elsewhere in the leg. But the real problem has been the three weeks he spent walking on the injury before it was correctly diagnosed.

"From the day he took his pot off, I don't think we had any confidence that he would be right in time," Charlton said. "But he's still got at least three weeks to get himself 100 per cent fit to take part in the World Cup." Fortunately for the Irish, the recognised replacement is of the highest calibre - Townsend, the Norwich City player.

The other half of the injured Liverpool duo, Houghton, took part in training and looked sharp, according to Charlton. But he added: "I'm optimistic about Ray, but his back problem comes and goes."

Leeds add another big signing

LEEDS United have beaten several big clubs for the signature of Gary McAllister, the Leicester City midfielder player, on the eve of his departure for the World Cup finals with Scotland. The fee will be decided by an FA tribunal.

McAllister joins another newcomer, John Lukic, the £1 million signing from Arsenal, on the staff at Elland Road.

Les Sealey, Manchester United's surprise choice in goal for the FA Cup final replay against Crystal Palace, has signed a 12-month contract with the club.

Watford, who have agreed to transfer their winger, Glyn Hodges, to the Spanish first division club, Real Sociedad, for £800,000, expect a decision today from the player, who is also wanted by Sheffield United.

Greece is suspended by FIFA

GREECE was suspended from all international football competitions involving national teams or clubs yesterday for breaking FIFA regulations.

Sepp Blatter, the general secretary of FIFA, the governing body, said Greece would not be able to play international matches, including European championship qualifiers, and its teams could not take part in European club competitions until the national federation changed its constitution.

"Greece did not conform to FIFA regulations," he told a news conference. "There were problems with transfers and with foreign trainers. The federation was called to Zurich (FIFA headquarters) and asked to put it in order."

But, he said, there had been no response and FIFA had decided to suspend the federation until it conformed.

Supporters rally to the Hibs cause

By a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE supporters of Hibernian yesterday moved swiftly to try to avert the selling of the Edinburgh club to Wallace Mercer, the chairman of Heart of Midlothian. A "Hands Off Hibs" committee has been formed by the supporters under the chairmanship of Kenny McLean, a former vice-chairman of the premier division club, and there will be a rally at Easter Road on Saturday, when a crowd of 30,000 is expected.

But last night David Duff, the Hibernian chairman, emerged from a board meeting to confirm that he had not seen a written offer from Mercer, who announced a bid of £6.12 million for the club on Monday. "When I see the offer document myself I will discuss it with my board and we will give our views on it but I have a duty to my

shareholders to consider it," he said.

Mercer's home has been placed under a police guard after vandalism at his offices yesterday morning.

McLean also appealed to Hearts supporters to support the rally and show their disapproval of the proposed merger of the two leading Edinburgh clubs.

"The way the offer has been presented is ludicrous. It's my considered opinion that an offer of this magnitude could not have been prepared in such a short period of time," he said.

● Martin Edwards, the chairman of Manchester United, yesterday deferred a decision on when, and to whom, he is to sell his controlling interest in the club following a board meeting (Ian Ross writes).

Case for Swindon to stay in the first division

1. In sport, as in life, the punishment should fit the crime. For example, the Jockey Club has modified the Rules of Racing so that a horse is disqualified for interference only if he has improved his placing by that interference. Swindon Town have certainly not improved their position in the League through their alleged fiscal improprieties.

2. The football season constitutes an annual contract between club and supporter. The season ticket-holder buys his ticket under the trades description that "the target is promotion". That reward should be protected.

3. Swindon's crowd and disciplinary record has been exemplary during 1989-90 (after the first game). Team and supporters have been widely acclaimed as a credit to

JULIAN WILSON, the BBC television racing correspondent, has a particular worry on this Derby Day. He is concerned about the plight of Swindon Town Football Club, which he has supported since 1953 and which faces a League commission tomorrow over allegations of irregular payments to players. Here, Wilson gives his reasons why Swindon, who have won the right to play in the first division next season for the first time, should not be punished too severely by being relegated.

the second division. To bar Swindon from the first division now would be a facsimile of the injustice that bans Liverpool and Aston Villa from Europe because of the misconduct of others.

4. Swindon have conformed to all Football League requirements. Five home games last season were played on Sunday, although this was voted unpopular by supporters. There was a reduction in ground capacity and strong policing. Now, in response to the Taylor Report, the County Ground will be made all-seater and the capacity reduced to 15,000

(from 32,000 in the late 1970s).

5. To relegate Swindon would be the equivalent of disqualifying a Derby winner because of a false registration. If that happened, at least the punters would be paid.

6. Sadly, Swindon's alleged offences are a manifestation of contemporary society. But when newspapers were found to be employing individuals with false names, were they kicked out of Fleet Street?

7. Above all, football should be about what happens on the field of play. It was gratifying to read Louise Taylor's comment in *The Times* after his victory over Sunderland in the play-off at Wembley: "Should Swindon fail to appear among the elite, it will be the first division's loss."

8. Ossie Ardiles. Rarely, if ever, has a Football League manager conducted himself better. Courteous... correct... pursuing the highest standards both on and off the field. A gentleman and a credit to his profession.

9. To impose the ultimate punishment would be a charter for unscrupulous cheque-book journalists to destroy football.

10. Relegation, surely, would be contrary to the laws of natural justice. For the supporters who have travelled the length and breadth of England, often treated like cattle, for the players and management who have sweated blood; and for the board which has had to make unpopular decisions to comply with the League, the Taylor Report and the Wiltshire Police. Above all, for the older supporters who have waited a life-time for the magic moment.

Is it fair to promise a child a reward if he passes his exam, and then not to deliver?

Lewis's injury causes worry for selectors

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

IN LAST summer's six-match series against Australia, England never once took their selection 12 into a game, such was the cruel persistence of their injury misfortune. Today at Trent Bridge, the party chosen for the first Cornhill Test against New Zealand will gather intact, but it is too soon to be confident that the fates have relented.

Before any serious planning can be done, on this first full practice day available to an England team at home in memory, the management must satisfy itself that Chris Lewis is fully fit to make his Test debut. And this may not be the formality hoped for.

Lewis, aged 22, the prospect from Guyana, was chosen with heart in mouth, having played no cricket for a week since complaining of a curious, heavy-legged condition usually associated with unfit business executives more than twice his age. Then, at the weekend, he pulled up short with a thigh injury which may, or may not, be connected.

The abandonment of yesterday's play at Grace Road not only blocked Hampshire's attempt to go top of the championship but prevented Lewis testing his recovery under match conditions. All he has done, since Saturday, is bat - rather impressively as it happens. England will be more concerned that he can bowl.

When Micky Stewart, the England manager, telephoned the Leicester ground yesterday he spoke not to Lewis himself but to his county captain, Nigel Briers. On this third-hand authority, it was decided that no stand-by bowler was needed, so England convened in Nottingham last night with the bare 12.

This might not be so alarming if Lewis had not taken it into his head to attempt a few turns and practice run-ups on a saturated outfield in mid-afternoon. Nothing could have been better designed for a relapse and he did not look

exactly comfortable. However, he insisted afterwards that he was feeling a lot better than at the weekend and would have a conclusive work-out on the Test ground this morning.

If, as remains perfectly feasible, Lewis proves that he is not ready to bowl upwards of 30 overs in a five-day game, the selectors will have no alternative but to messily extract someone from a county game which will have already begun. David Capel, for instance, is engaged against Lewis's club at Northampton.

Another worry came yesterday when Eddie Hemmings, bobbled off the field at Tunbridge Wells with an ankle injury, even though he said it was "not all that serious."

Fitness problems notwithstanding, today's routine will seem an improvement on the token Wednesday afternoon gatherings of old England's players will share a leisurely breakfast at their city centre hotel, train from mid-morning onwards and go into the Trent Bridge nets.

In the afternoon further nets, and specialized coaching, will be available for those who want it and Graham Gooch, the captain, intends to use the time to speak individually to his players and concentrate their minds. It is an attempt, and an admirable one, to create an atmosphere more akin to a team on tour than one dropping in from the hectic merry-go-round of county cricket.

Gooch himself remains in wonderful form. Yesterday, he scored his sixth century of the season for Essex against Middlesex, while at Hove, Phillip DeFreitas was playing some fears about his wicket-taking potential with six for 39, bowling Lancashire to victory over Sussex.

● Richard Hadlee is almost certain to be fit for New Zealand for the first Test.

More cricket, page 54

Derby gamble on Zoman develops

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

A BIG gamble developed on Zoman for this afternoon's Ever Ready Derby as both Razzen, the favourite, and Linmix, the strongly-fancied French challenger, were opposed in the market.

Razzen, as low as 5-2 in the morning, eased to 7-2. Linmix, 5-1 earlier in the day, was virtually friends at 8-1 at the close of business. But Zoman, who had been on offer at 6-1, was backed to 5-1.

Zoman, runner-up to Linmix in the French classic, delighted Paul Cole, the colt's trainer and Richard Quinn, his jockey, in a spin round Tattenham Corner.

"He is in tremendous shape and I think he will stay," said the trainer, who like his

jockey, is seeking a first classic success.

"Zoman and Quest For Fame are the two horses in demand," Mike Dillon, of Ladbrokes, said. "There is a real buzz on for Zoman. We laid an individual cash bet of £10,000 each-way in one of our offices. And after Sangamere's win in the French Derby on Sunday, the punters are going for Quest For Fame to repeat the dose for Pat Eddery."

More than £35 million is expected to be wagered and 300,000 racegoers will throng the downs. "Although there has been less ante-post interest than usual, it will be business as usual today," Dillon said.

Wimbledon expulsion may spur Becker on

By ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE expulsion of Boris Becker from the practice courts at Wimbledon over the weekend has further antagonised an uneasy relationship. The Wimbledon champion, an automatic member of the All England club, was asked to leave the courts at Aorangi Park on Sunday by the club secretary, Roger Ambrose, because his playing partner, his coach, Bob Brett, was not a member of the club.

Two years ago, Becker was in a dispute over a car-park pass at Wimbledon and last year he was refused entry by a steward because he did not

have his player's pass. Ironically, such inflexibility, combined with the recent disappointment of being beaten in the first round of the French Open, could give the Frenchman the extra incentive he needs to carry off his fourth Wimbledon title. "It could just act in our favour," Wilson said.

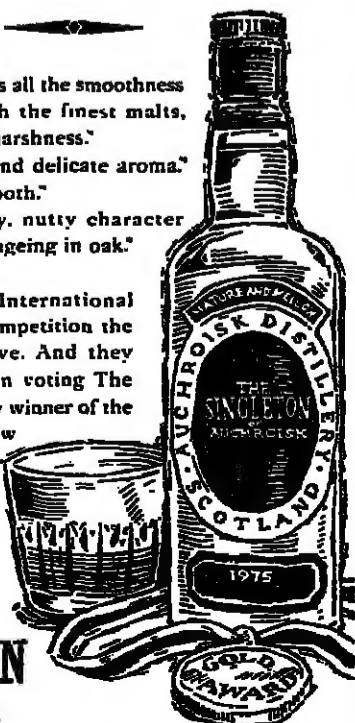
Becker was reported to have turned down an invitation to attend the annual champions' dinner, given in Paris by the International Tennis Federation to honour their two world champions, Becker and Steffi Graf.

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